

*William Thomas
by H. G. Smith*

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 573.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, OCT. 22, 1856.

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ON SUNDAY EVENING NEXT, in GREAT ROOM, HANOVER-SQUARE, the Second of a Course of Lectures on UNFULFILLED PROPHECY, by Rev. JOHN BAILLIE, Free Church of Scotland (Author of "Memoirs of Hewitson," &c.).

THE AUTUMNAL MEETING of the SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL, will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, THURSDAY EVENING, Nov. 6. Further particulars will be announced. 2, Serjeant's-inn, Fleet-street.

BEXLEY-HEATH CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL.—A FANCY SALE in AID of the BUILDING FUND of the above place of worship, will be held in the SCHOOL-ROOM adjoining BARNBURY CHAPEL, ISLINGTON, on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, 5th and 6th November, 1856. Tickets of Admission, 1s. each, may be obtained at the doors on the days of sale.

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IF YOU ARE BALD or YOUR HAIR is
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THE METROPOLITAN BENEVOLENT

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As the Medical Faculty continue to prescribe genuine Cod Liver
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TEETH and SOFT GUM, which are fixed permanently; they do
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in a superior manner, 5s. A white cement for decayed front
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TEETH.—By Her Majesty's Royal Letters
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Chemically Prepared White and Gum Coloured India Rubber, in
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EPHRAIM MOSELEY, Surgeon-Dentist, 61, LOWER GROSVENOR-
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A new, original, and invaluable invention, consisting in the
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CHEMICALLY PREPARED WHITE and GUM-COLOURED
INDIA RUBBER, as a lining to the ordinary gold or
bone frame. The extraordinary results of this application
may be briefly noted in a few of their most prominent
features: All sharp edges are avoided; no springs, wires,
or fastenings are required; a greatly increased freedom
of suction is supplied; a natural elasticity, hitherto wholly
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agents employed, the greatest support is given to the adjoining
teeth when loose, or rendered tender by the absorption of the
gums. The acids of the mouth exert no agency on the che-
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conductor, fluids of any temperature may, with thorough com-
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in producing preparations of the purest and finest quality ever
manufactured from the Oat and Barley.

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Luncheon or Supper.

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A report having been circulated that preparations of so white a
character could not be produced from Groats and Barley alone,
the Patentees have had recourse to the highest authority, viz.,
A. S. TAYLOR, M.D., F.R.S., &c., &c., for an analysis to establish
the fact, a copy of which is subjoined:—

[CONT.]

"Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital,
February 15, 1856.

"I have submitted to a microscopical and chemical examina-
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warded to me, and I beg to inform you that I find in them only
those principles which are found in good Barley; there is no
mineral or other impurity present, and from the result of my in-
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THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 573.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, OCT. 22, 1856.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED 5d.
STAMPED .. 6d.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

CONVINCED, BUT NOT CONVERTED.

ONLY a few hours after the issue of our last Number, in which, our readers will recollect, we commented on the admissions of the *Guardian* in favour of the voluntary principle, the *Times* called public attention to the same subject in one of those remarkable articles, by means of which that journal every now and then marks how completely the tide of public opinion has turned. *Apropos* of a letter from its correspondent in Australia, the *Times* remarks that "wherever the Anglo-Saxon goes, he carries, not only his Protestantism with him, but the voluntary principle also." Putting out of view "these home islands," where "there are exceptions in the shape of particular institutions which we mean to keep," the Anti-State Church Association, it is admitted, "has the whole English empire for its disciple," which has "adopted Voluntaryism as a principle," and "a rule"—in a word, as "part and parcel of our Imperial policy." "No State aid to religion," says the *Times*, "is the watchword everywhere, except at home."

A word or two, before we go further, on the significance of the fact thus recorded. It is certainly a matter for congratulation that the principle which the original Anti-State Church Association was organised to promulgate and enforce, and which the existing Liberation Society is labouring to get embodied in law, is now frankly recognised by the leading journal of Europe as the established rule of our policy, to which the United Church of England and Ireland, and the Presbyterian Kirk of Scotland, are to be regarded as exceptions. So far, so good. Politico-religionism is an evil to which, at any rate, limits have now been assigned. It is not going to overrun the world. It is not destined to mould the institutions of our various colonies. All hope that it might enlarge its borders has been extinguished. If its life is not gone, its growth is stopped. We know its utmost boundaries. It is deposed from supremacy. It sits no longer a sovereign. For some years to come it may continue to be a powerful satrap, but it will reign no more. Its highest expectation can reach no further than the possibility of holding its own. Well, this is a result, the full importance of which no human mind can pretend to appreciate. All things considered, it has been brought about with wonderful rapidity. Fifteen years ago, Voluntaryism was seldom glanced at by statesmen, seldom alluded to by the press, without a sneer. State-ecclesiasticism was dominant, insolent, rampant, intolerant. Everywhere it would be master, everywhere it would lord it over its junior rival. And now that rival has stepped into the place of authority, and Great Britain owns its right to rule, asking only that it shall spare home institutions because they are very old.

The *Times*, of course, does not make this direct appeal *ad misericordiam*. No, no! "We have got our Establishment, and now that we have got it we intend to keep it." No doubt! But how long can an exception and an anomaly maintain itself in the heart of a great empire like our own? There is no question of the intentions of Churchmen—but what, under the circumstances, is the inevitable tendency of events? If the State

Churches of these realms, or rather, as the *Times* puts it, of "these home islands," are partly permeated and wholly environed by an element at war with their very constitution, their fall becomes only a question of time. The perpetual movement to and fro of thought and action, like a tidal stream, at their base—the periodical recoil upon them of colonial opinion and colonial example—the hollows within their own borders into which Voluntaryism will surge, but from which it will never retire—are as sure of eating away the strength of the politico-ecclesiastical institutions which still remain in the kingdom, as are rain, wind, tides, and tempests, to destroy at last the lighthouse which has been abandoned because misplaced, and is only not pulled down because it is picturesque and connected with many old associations. The *Times* knows as well as we, that a dead object cannot long exist as such in the near neighbourhood of vigorous vitality. Like a stone monument in a tropical forest, it will first be overrun by, and ultimately crumble away under, a perennially renovating life. That which is really the living law of the empire will speedily assimilate everything incompatible with itself. Exception will become more exceptional every day. And just as it was found impossible to retain long the corn monopoly after free-trade was recognised as the rule of our policy in respect of all other commodities, so it will be found impossible to preserve a State Church for any long period after admitting Voluntaryism to a general supremacy.

Passing on from the statement of fact to the reasonings and reflections of the *Times*, the advocates of nationally-endowed ecclesiastical establishments will discover, we apprehend, no very solid ground for confidence in its emphatic and reiterated declaration—"we mean to keep them." The writer shows that they are wholly unnecessary. "Wherever there is an average amount," says he, "of common sense and common honesty, it will be allowed that the labourer is worthy of his hire, and wherever religion is thought of importance, it will be felt that religion must employ its labourers. Trust to this plain truth, then, being seen. There is a risk in everything, but we do not see what greater risk there can be in trusting to this natural working of things in religion, than in trusting to the principle of credit in trade." Well, but why not trust "this natural working of things in religion" at home, as well as in the colonies? Is there no "common sense and common honesty" in England, or Scotland? Is "religion" not "thought of importance" here? Are matters so much better with our colonists that they may be trusted to see a plain truth, whereas we at home are wholly unworthy of confidence? The *Times* admits that, according to the complaints of Churchmen, "Dissent flourishes but too well in this country." It allows that Methodism has "got the secret of the appeal to the purse," and that the leaders of that denomination "are always bleeding their congregations, and their congregations seem rather to like it than not." Why, then, do not Churchmen rest upon this stable and satisfactory basis in their provision for religious instruction and worship? Why should not the voluntary principle succeed with them?

The reply of the *Times* is so true, and withal so curious, that we must furnish it in the very words of our contemporary. "No principle," it pithily declares, "has fair play while it is only half appealed to; but throw yourself entirely upon it, and it will respond generously. Its effectiveness lies in this reliance upon it, and in this reliance being unreserved. If you have a reserve in the background, an aid from the State or some society, you make people suppose that you are dependent at the bottom upon them, and the force of your appeal to them is gone. They do not feel that the responsibility of the Church's support lies upon them. But make them feel their responsibility, and you have a hold upon them which they cannot escape." The Church of England, then, is debarred from an effective appeal to "the inspiration of God's good Spirit in the matter of giving money," simply by the fact that it is already a State-endowed institution. The *Times* broadly

admits as much. "Any appeal to the voluntary principle on behalf of the Church in this country, any attempt to induce congregations to support their ministers, even in districts which do not practically enjoy the benefits of the Establishment, would probably be a great failure, because the principle of an Establishment occupies the ground, and people do not understand being called on to pay for their clergy when there is an Establishment in the country." In other words, we cannot, here at home, at least where the Church of England is concerned, trust "the natural working of things in religion," because we have set up an unnatural system irreconcilable with it, and "which," quoth the *Times*, "we intend to keep."

Now, if the reasoning employed by the *Times* with the ostensible object of reconciling Churchmen in this country to the adoption of the voluntary principle by the colonies be worth the paper on which it was written, we can well afford to laugh at the determination which, at the same time, it records to retain endowments at home. You intend to keep your Church establishment, do you? You defy the efforts of Anti-State-Church Associations to shake that institution? Very well! But have you deliberately counted the cost? Events will not stand still merely because Churchmen refuse to stir. New generations are growing up. Our home population is rapidly on the increase. The Church already bemoans her comparative impotence—her want of elasticity. The "Cry of the Curates" rings through the land. Spiritual destitution is the theme of every bishop. What is to be done to meet the obvious and growing want? The Church cannot rest upon her unequally distributed endowments—for they are found insufficient to cover the ground already occupied, and, it is calculated, would be so, even if economically managed, and fairly and faithfully applied. She is in a position analogous to that of a leaky ship with a defective pump to the use of which the crew resolve to stick at all hazards, although the water gains upon them every hour. They have on board a much better pump, and one which other ships have tried in similar emergencies with invariable success. But it is on a new principle, and they cannot abide new-fangled devices. Unfortunately for their resolution, the water continues to rise, and they will have either to part with their old pump, or to see the ship go down. The Church cannot make her existing endowments do the work required of her. She has no glimmer of hope that the State will be induced to increase them. She is compelled to appeal to voluntary effort, but then, as the *Times* says, "people do not understand being called on to pay for their clergy when there is an Establishment in the country." And so it happens that in the race which she is compelled to run with the free and self-supporting sects, the Church is heavily weighted. They are not hampered with State aid, and they, therefore, can successfully appeal to the voluntary principle, because their "reliance upon it is unreserved." It surely needs no prophetic eye to discern the issue of this competition. "Common sense and common honesty" will ultimately beat all opponents. The Church will lose ground, relatively, at least, to the increase of population, and will be so distanced as to sink into a secondary and insignificant agency. So long as she "intends to keep" her endowments, she will meet with a very insufficient and niggardly response to her appeals for voluntary support—and shut out from the advantage which such support would render her, she must be content to subside into an antiquated, lifeless, and tottering institution. When she has reached this stage, what safety will her endowments gain for her? Wealth in the hands of worthlessness and weakness will soon be on the wing to some securer ownership.

FALLING BETWEEN TWO STOOLS.

THERE are others besides the members of the Church of England who should take to heart the lesson of the *Times*, that an exclusive reliance on the principle of Voluntaryism is necessary to the

ORIGINAL
DEFECTIVE

full development of its power—we refer to the Irish Presbyterians. Irish Presbyterianism, unlike English Episcopacy, has no tithes, glebes, or Church-rates, as the pillars of its financial system. It has but one source of State-support—a parliamentary *Donum*, from which no minister can receive more than 75*l.* per annum. It does not, like the English Establishment—theoretically, if not practically—ignore or abjure the principle of willinghood; on the contrary, that principle has to be called into requisition as a condition for sharing in the parliamentary grant. Give so much yourselves, says the Government, in token of your own interest in your spiritual instructors, and we will add to your givings a sum from the Imperial Exchequer.

In one other respect also is the Presbyterian body more favourably placed than those who belong to the Establishment for trying the efficacy of a hybrid system. They are less clogged by State-regulations. They have, or may possess, more of congregational organisation. They can also exercise full control over whatever funds they may be able to raise for ecclesiastical purposes.

Yet, notwithstanding these points of difference, the recipients of the *Regium Donum* find themselves faring quite as miserably as their brother clergies under the other system; while they have no ground for hope in those stirrings of religious life, and of Christian liberality, which are fast preparing English Churchmen to cast off the swathing bands, and, with them, the galling fetters of the Establishment.

A consciousness of this fact has, we presume, occasioned the holding of a recent meeting at Newry, for the express purpose of dealing with the subject of ministerial support; and if Mr. Kirk, the member for that borough, were present—as we hope was the case—we trust that he heard enough to shut his mouth next session when the *Regium Donum* will be again discussed.

The Rev. Dr. Morgan, one of the speakers, told his audience that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland had 500 ministers, and of those there were 300 whose income, *Donum* included, did not exceed, or reach, 100*l.* a year. He further explained the statistical *modus* by which he had reached this unpleasant conclusion:—

He had gone over the returns of all the ministers of the Assembly presented to Government, and he reckoned thus: The minister had 75*l.* a year from the Crown, which being reduced into English money, amounted to 69*l.* Deducting from that his contribution to the Widows' Fund, his Income-tax, and other expenses of that kind, he was left somewhere about 65*l.* of endowment. Then, he had taken a list of all congregations whose contributions did not amount to 40*l.*, and putting the two results together, he found that there was the large number of 300 ministers who did not receive an income of 100*l.* a year, and a very few indeed went a pound or two beyond it.

We observe that it was also stated that the average income of the entire 500 ministers is but 110*l.*; and even this, as pointed out by one of the speakers, includes the incomes received in the large towns, which form exceptions to the general rule. And is not 100*l.* a year, it may be asked, as much as is received by many Dissenting ministers in England? Perhaps so, but in their case the entire sum is raised by their flocks; whereas out of the 100*l.* received by the Irish Presbyterian minister, the largest portion comes from the public funds, and not from the purses of the worshippers.

The most plausible plea to be urged in extenuation of this state of things is Irish poverty, but that this is inadmissible we have the assurance of another Presbyterian divine, Dr. McCosh, who declared plainly, that "Presbyterian people were not giving as they ought to give for the sustentation of the ministry. He had had before him on one occasion the returns, from a large number of congregations of their Church, of the sums contributed by them, and he was astonished to find how small were the sums given annually by persons in excellent circumstances. He found, in many cases, the sum paid was half-a-crown or three shillings by farmers and shopkeepers,—persons living in fair circumstances,—and in many cases it was as low as one shilling or one and sixpence. He was further astonished to find, that in country places the sums paid by families in towns and in country districts varied in many cases from two to five shillings."

We need not express an opinion of our own on such an *exposé*. It is enough to say that Dr. Morgan ingenuously declared that, "so long as the present state of things existed, he should continue to apply to it the language of strong denunciation—so long as it lasted, he said it was a disgrace to the Church."

The niggardliness of soul thus faithfully denounced is said to be referable to the fact, that the people continue to give as their fathers gave, and that the ministers feel a delicacy in urging them to greater liberality. The first of these suggestions, only shifts the enquiry a point further back; for how is it that other religious communities, with but few exceptions, escaping the "influence of habit," have out-done, and are out-doing, their predecessors in religious activity and pecuniary sacrifices? And as for the delicacy attributed to

the pastorate, we could wish that it displayed itself in connexion with appeals to Dublin Castle, to increase the parliamentary grant, or to relax the regulations under which it is received.

The true source of the evil which engaged the attention of the Newry meeting, is the absence of faith on the part of Irish Presbyterian ministers in those "principles of the Word of God," which were enforced at the meeting itself. If they believed that he who preached the Gospel "should live of the Gospel," and not of the Gospel and the State, and that he who planteth the vineyard should look for fruit there only, and not to a foreign soil also, they would at least fare no worse than they now do in a pecuniary respect, while they would be extricated from a painful, because discreditable dilemma. Now they dare not extol or enforce Voluntaryism, from fear of the retort—"whence, then, this *Donum*?" Nor will it do to insist on the responsibility of a paternal Government, lest the governed should take them at their word, and refuse to furnish the poor pittance which is a *sine quâ non* in the reception of the *Donum*, and which often cannot be raised without recourse to miserable shifts.

It is now said that "the people are declaring that the reproach is to be no longer lying on the Church." We hope that the feeling, and any movement which may grow out of it, will take a wider range than an attempt to add to the sum which their ministers now receive from the annual parliamentary dole, and that they will begin by casting away the "artificial prop" which has kept up a bad and not a good system. Let them instruct Mr. Kirk no longer to vote for a grant to Roman Catholic Maynooth, to secure stipends for those who cordially hate Roman Catholicism. They should do this for their own credit, and for the credit of their creed, as well as for the character and comfort of their ministers, who have heretofore tried to sit securely on the two stools—public endowment and private beneficence—and who are now ignominiously sprawling in the dirt.

THE STATE GRANT QUESTION IN AUSTRALIA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Collingwood, Victoria, July 9, 1856.

The elections are drawing near—those for the Upper House will take place next month. Candidates for both Houses are coming forward, but, at present, there is no stir or haste. The great fact of modern days was the monster meeting held last month in the Theatre Royal, to consider what steps ought to be taken in regard to the grant. It was accessible to all parties equally, and not the least restriction was imposed upon any. It was a challenge to Melbourne to give expression to its sentiments—to decide whether the clause is "to be" or "not to be." Many of the most ardent advocates of its repeal fully expected determined opposition in such a meeting, and were surprised to find that not a single voice was raised against them, and scarcely a single hand. We were almost astounded at our success; and so were some others, it appears, for a few days only elapsed before another meeting was conceived, to be held in the same place. A requisition was got up for the purpose, and was numerously signed, especially by Romanists and Squatters. The coalition looked ominous, and as Messrs. O'Shanassy and Gavan Duffy figured largely in the group, something characteristic was expected by those who know their antecedents. Professedly, the object was to frame a policy which should be the basis of the future Legislature, and which it was intended to recommend to the several constituencies as a political programme worthy of their adoption. However, it was soon demonstrated that the real object was to strangle the opposition to the 50,000*l.* clause, and the agitation against the Squatting monopoly. The ruse has been discovered; the portentous conception has proved an abortion; the good sense of the public indignantly refused it; the monster public meeting is to take place in the Greek Calends; and the 53rd clause is in more prominent relief than ever as the great battle cry of the ensuing elections, the doom of which is certainly fixed. It is with much pleasure I have to inform you that several public meetings have been recently held in connexion with our society, and that we have succeeded in carrying, at every one of them, an almost unanimous affirmation of our principle. Our warm friends in England may rely upon it that agitation will increase in area and potency until the baneful clause be removed from our Constitution; and that, though there are not a few of the pro-fessed opponents of the grant who take the money because (as they say) by so doing they prevent the teachers of error having it—and thus make their inconsistency glaring and stultify their principles—there are multitudes of noble minds in this colony who would rather want bread than touch the unclean thing, and who will not cease to labour till religious equality shall be a reality. I will write again as soon as the elections come off.

The Melbourne Herald contains a report of a public meeting held at the Mechanics' Institution, Melbourne, convened by the committee of the association for procuring a repeal of the 53rd clause, and for receiving their report. F. J. Sargood, Esq., M.L.C., was called to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN said that the object of the association was, by combined action to get what was considered an obnoxious clause in the New Constitution repealed. The association did not inquire the reasons which prompted parties to give it their adhesion. Some supported the association because they would not support truth and error, but would sooner give up the share to which they were themselves entitled. Others joined it because they considered the endowment opposed to the progress of Christianity; but it was enough that parties were prepared to oppose the 53rd clause, to entitle them to become members.

The Rev. Mr. THOMAS read the report, which announced, among other things, that that gentleman was obliged to retire from the secretariat by the state of his health and numerous duties connected with the Church under his pastoral care; and that the vacancy had been filled by the election of the Rev. A. M. Ramsay, whose devotedness and unremitting attention to the society are well known. In respect to the future, the report said:—

It strongly feels that the entire energies of the society must be brought to bear upon the forthcoming elections. The battle must be fought by them, and success will mainly depend upon the wisdom and vigorous zeal which it is earnestly hoped the friends of the society will then display; and therefore the board urges them to seek, and even toil if need be, to secure the return of such candidates only as will unequivocally and boldly declare their determination to crush to powder this bone of contention, and hurl away from this infant empire, in the fair days of its bright morning, the apple of discord which (alluring as it may be to some persons) is rotten at the core.

Mr. GEORGE HARKER moved the adoption of the report, remarking that it was necessary to enter upon the work with determination, as elements of opposition were at work. He cordially agreed with the voluminous report which had been just read.

The Rev. Mr. RAMSAY seconded the resolution, with the addition that the report be printed and put into circulation, which was carried.

Dr. EMBLING, M.L.C., said he came to the meeting with a conviction that the thing was settled, inasmuch as, at a meeting which he had attended that afternoon, the matter was altogether cushioned. It was true that the public meeting which was to have been held on Friday next, had been postponed, and the committee appointed to prepare resolutions had been desired to reconsider them, with the view of introducing the question of State aid to religion. The next election would be for five years, and he understood the intention was, if possible, to double the present grant; therefore, the necessity of keeping an eye upon the candidates, and supporting none but those who would pledge themselves to vote for the abolition of State aid. Could any minister be moral who would receive his pound in common with the man whom he believed to be teaching error? Two Churches were running a race now. One bishop recently went home to get something done, but he found another bishop had been before him. It was absurd to say that State aid was wanted in the squating district, for the wealth of the country was in the bush. Even Mr. Goodman admitted that the poor squatters only got four millions annually. Conscience and souls were made for God, and God alone, and there should be no human interference between man and his Creator.

Mr. THOMAS WHITEN, a digger, supported the resolution, believing that State aid to religion had a demoralising effect.

W. WESTGARTH, Esq., in proposing the next resolution, said that he should make but a short speech, as the various bearings of the question had been well considered, and they had all made up their minds upon it. The resolution he had to propose was—

That as the election of individuals to represent the community in the Legislature is so near at hand, the association calls upon their friends throughout the various constituencies to use their utmost exertions in returning representatives pledged to the immediate abolition of the grant; and that at all public meetings for the adoption of essential principles by which candidates should be tested, they should make it a point to attend, and see that the entire and immediate abrogation of the 53rd clause be included.

Although the question appeared on the face of it a religious question it was also a political one. The religious bearing of the question had been pointed out by previous speakers, who had pointed out the inconsistency of endowing all and directly opposite sects. Here we were determined to go for religious and political equality, but there could not be political equality so long as State aid was part of the system. He believed the cause would shortly be gained by a far larger majority than in South Australia. The result there was satisfactory, as one-third of the Council consisted of nominees, whilst in the forthcoming assembly there would be none but representatives of the people. His only fear was in reference to the Upper House, and all that could be done would be to narrowly watch the members who were returned to it.

Councillor FINLAY seconded the resolution.

Mr. HENRY LANGLANDS in supporting the resolution urged the meeting to be faithful to the one point, and not vote for any candidate who would not pledge himself to vote in the Legislature for the abolition of the grant. If successful in the present struggle the difficulty would be got rid of at once and for ever.

Mr. JONES said he had been deputed to apologise for the absence of Mr. Fawcner, M.L.C., the multiplicity of whose engagements prevented his attendance.

Mr. SCOTCHMERE and Mr. DAVID BLAIR supported the resolution, which was carried unanimously; and the Chairman intimated that the movement could not be carried on without funds, and that pamphlets issued by the association could be procured for sixpence, but that parties were at liberty to give more if they liked.

A vote of thanks was given to the Chairman, and the meeting separated.

The *Times* Melbourne correspondent, writing on this subject, says: "I do not think the Assembly will contain a majority in favour of the abolition of State aid, but it will contain a strong minority, backed by an active party out of doors; and every English politician knows how minorities grow into majorities."

THE BURIAL BOARD QUESTION.

A public meeting of the ratepayers of the parish of Alnwick, was held in the Town Hall, on Friday, the 3rd instant, for the purpose of obtaining the approval of the vestry to the salaries awarded by the Burial Board to the registrar and keeper of the cemetery respectively. The meeting was numerously attended by the respectable ratepayers and inhabitants of the town. The Rev. L. S. Orde presided, and opened the proceedings with reading the notice by which the meeting was called, and the resolutions of the Board. Mr. M. Smith, sen., seconded by Mr. J. O. Stamp, moved the adoption of the arrangements of the Board, by which a keeper of the cemetery, at a salary of 40l. per annum, a house, and other perquisites, and a registrar with fees, and a money allowance for rent of an office, were appointed. The Rev. Wm. Limont, Mr. James Landells, Mr. Thomas Duncan, Mr. D. P. Bell, and others opposed this motion, on the grounds that the Board had appointed two officers to perform duties to which one would have been fully adequate, and because a money allowance of rent had been made for an office in the town, when sufficient accommodation had been already provided for that purpose in the erections at the cemeteries, and because the scale of fees, as settled by the Board, were not levied equitably or justly, inasmuch as others than members of the Church of England were called upon to contribute a larger amount to the income of the Board than members of the Established Church. After a protracted and irregular discussion, Mr. Limont, seconded by the Rev. Robert Greener, proposed the following amendment:—

That this meeting declines to approve of the salaries proposed by the Board, until the fees out of which they are to be paid shall have been properly adjusted by the Board, and sanctioned by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The Chairman, however, declined to put this amendment, asserting that the meeting had no other power than to say yea or nay to the propositions of the Board, and though appealed to to take the sense of the meeting, as to whether the amendment should be put or not, yet this also he refused. Eventually, Mr. Smith's original motion was put from the chair, when a few hands were held up for it, afterwards the negative, when a large majority was declared in its favour. The meeting extended over two hours, and the result created very great excitement in the town.

After this meeting, a memorial signed by 300 of the ratepayers and inhabitants, was sent to Sir G. Grey, requesting him to withhold his sanction from any scheme not founded on the principle of equality of fees payable to the Board, irrespective of ecclesiastical dues. The following is the reply of the Home Secretary:—

Whitehall, Oct. 16, 1856.

SIR,—I am directed by Secretary Sir George Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th inst., and of the memorial of ratepayers and inhabitants of the parish of Alnwick, submitting that the fees payable to the Burial Board ought to be equal on both sides of the ground, irrespective of ecclesiastical dues: and I am to inform you, that such is the true principle according to the opinion of the law officers of the Crown.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

H. WADDINGTON.

Rev. Wm. Limont, Alnwick.

THE CHURCH AND THE UNIVERSITY IN BELGIUM.

A fierce controversy rages in Belgium between the Bishops of Ghent and Bruges and the Universities of Brussels and Ghent. The Bishops denounce the system of teaching at the Universities, as inimical to the Catholic faith. Through one of its Professors, Mr. Verhaegen, the University of Brussels replied to the Bishops, at the opening of the winter session, on the 6th inst.: "He accuses the Roman Catholic clergy and Church of having broken through the treaty of alliance and tolerance entered into at the commencement of the independent career of Belgium. Every one then hoped for tranquillity and happiness; but hardly had a year elapsed when the 'chief of Catholicism, a stranger to our country, to our manners, to our civilisation, assumed the part of a political censor, and launched his encyclic against our constitution.' The constitution proclaimed 'liberty of conscience and of public worship,' the encyclic pronounced this liberty to be a 'false, absurd, and extravagant principle.' The constitution proclaimed the 'liberty of the press,' the encyclic replied that 'such liberty was detestable, and could not be held in too great horror.' The constitution proclaimed the 'liberty of association,' the encyclic replied that this liberty was 'a new cause of bitterness and inquietude to the Holy See.' From that moment the clergy had to choose between the political laws of their country and the political laws of Rome. The Bishops ceased to be Belgians, and dreamt only of a reaction which, if it succeeded, 'will give us the tolerance, the security, the riches, the happiness, so greatly to be envied, of the Roman States.' The grand instrument of the Romish clergy is the education they have the opportunity of imparting in their own Universities at Mechlin and Louvain, where they 'use the constitution as the law gives them free liberty to do; teach that liberty of conscience is 'a false, absurd, and extravagant principle,' that the liberty of the press is 'detestable and horrible,' &c., and distort history in order to re-establish the characters of such men as Montfort, Philip II., and the Duke of Alba. The Professor claims at least equal right

and liberty to teach the contrary of all this. But the Church of Rome, not content with teaching her religion and celebrating her rites without let or hindrance, insists upon censoring all rival establishments, and making herself as heretofore supreme arbitress of good and evil. The reason is, that 'the Romish Church is not merely a religion, but also a political party, which assaults State after State, and sees the *best ideal* of human society only in the theocratical absolutism of Rome. She clamours for liberty as a right for all when she is undermost, but as soon as ever she is in possession of it herself, she insists upon having it as an exclusive privilege.'"

The Government sympathises with the two Universities. The Minister of the Interior has issued a circular stating that the Government "does not intend to impose on the professors the obligation to treat religious questions 'dans le sens exclusif d'une religion positive.'"

BAPTISMS IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—A return, moved for prior to the recess by Mr. Henley, M.P., shows that in the year 1851 (the year of the census) the number of persons baptised in the various churches and chapels of the Church of England was as follows—viz., in the diocese of Canterbury, 10,151; in that of York, no return; in London, 42,955; in Durham, 16,707; in Winchester, 22,860; in Bangor, 2,373; in Bath and Wells, 3,079; in Carlisle, 4,171; in Chester, 22,254; in Chichester, 8,880; in Ely, 12,124; in Exeter, no return; in Gloucester and Bristol, 11,007; in Hereford, no return; in Lichfield, 22,475; in Llandaff, 3,314; in Lincoln, 5,274; in Manchester, 28,933; in Norwich, 15,970; in Oxford, 13,184; in Peterborough, 7,728; in Ripon, 21,045; in Rochester, 14,284; in St. Asaph, 3,572; in St. David's, no return; in Salisbury, 9,478; in Worcester, 16,868; and in the diocese of Sodor and Man, 1,497 persons.

CHURCH-RATES AT HACKNEY.—Since the refusal of a Church-rate at South Hackney an attempt has been made, and with some success, to make a "voluntary" rate. Hitherto a respectable sum has been subscribed, but it is as yet insufficient to meet the expenses of the church, which are considerable. At St. John's, North Hackney, where a rate has been more than once refused, the salary of the organist has been considerably reduced, and other retrenchments will probably be made if the voluntary movement prove a failure. It remains for the parishioners to prove their attachment to the Church by the liberality of their subscriptions.—*Times*.

CHURCH-RATE SEIZURE.—A few days ago two of the county police made a *razzia* upon the farm of Mr. T. Frearson, of Saddington, Leicestershire, and seized for a Church-rate of 2l. 17s. 5d., two pigs, a gun, a brass ladle, and some bell-metal pots. The expenses amounted to 2l.

DESECRATION OF BUNHILL-FIELDS BURIAL-GROUND.—Some excitement has been caused in Islington by the alleged removal of tombstones from the above burial-ground by Mr. Jones, the superintendent. A summons was issued, but Mr. Jones refused to attend. On Thursday, the several parties interested again appeared, and laid the case fully before the magistrate. Mr. Tyrwhitt said the conduct of Mr. Jones was most indecent, improper, disgusting, and detestable. It was very improper that the law could not meet such a case. He would look over all the authorities on the subject, but it was most shameful and very hard that the parties who had bought the ground should not have it safe for at least fifty years. All the laws on the subject apply to the regular cemeteries; but he could not help saying that it was most disgraceful that the bodies or stones should be moved at all. The law never contemplated such a case, but it was laid down that, in monuments which were formerly only erected to the great, the heir had a right, but that was in regular churchyards. Understanding that an opinion had been given by the Attorney-General, he would advise the parties to see Mr. Layton, and look at the "case" laid before counsel; and then if he could do anything to forward their views he should be most happy to do it. The parties then thanked his Worship and retired.

THE UNION CHAPLAINCY QUESTION IN LEICESTER.—The result of the proceedings at the Board of Guardians on Tuesday week can scarcely fail of deciding the fate of the memorial lately presented to the Poor Law Commissioners, with a view to effecting a change in the system of religious instruction at present pursued within the walls of the Leicester Union. Of twenty-seven guardians who were present, it will be seen that no less than twenty-two recorded their votes in favour of the voluntary principle. On the whole it may be affirmed that, by the proceedings of Tuesday evening, the public are now placed in a position to form their judgment of the scheme of religious instruction, which for the last three years has been adopted at the Workhouse, on the ground of its intrinsic merits. All the evidence calculated to throw light upon its advantage or defects, has been carefully adduced. Whatever could be stated either for or against it, has been clearly and forcibly urged. The case is closed, so far as the pleadings of advocates or the testimony of witnesses is concerned. We may add that it is also to a certain extent decided by an overwhelming majority in the Court, before which it has been tried in the first instance. It now only remains to be seen, how far the deliberate judgment of the Leicester Guardians will be confirmed or disallowed by the Poor Law Commissioners in London.—*Leicester Mercury*.

ST. DAVID'S COLLEGE, LAMPETER.—ALLEGED HERESY.—A large and influential body of the benefited clergy of the diocese of St. David's have memorialised their bishop, as visitor of this college, on the subject of the volume of sermons lately published by the Divinity Professor, the Rev. Rowland Williams, entitled "Rational Godliness after

the Mind of Christ and the Written Voices of His Church." They certify his lordship that "statements contained in the work generally, but especially on Holy Scripture, have filled them with alarm, have shaken their confidence in the author as a theologian, and have made them apprehensive that his continuance in his responsible post will be attended with most serious consequences to the interests of the college and the welfare of the Church in the Principality." The number of benefited clergymen who signed the memorial amounted to seventy-one, nine of them being rural deans. Curates were not asked to sign, neither were all incumbents; in fact, few, comparatively, refused to sign who were asked. And those few refused, either because they had not read the book, or because they thought the bishop, if necessary, would interfere of himself. We understand also that the Bristol Clerical Aid Society, which has hitherto educated many students at Lampeter College for the ministry of our Church, has decided to send no more men there under present circumstances. It is said that the number of students now in residence is between thirty and forty; the number as one time, when Dr. Ollivant, the present Bishop of Llandaff, occupied the Dignity chair, amounted to between seventy and eighty students.—*Record*.

THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND has promised 500l. towards the fund for endowing churches in localities where the means of religious instruction are wanting.

PERSECUTION IN FRANCE.—The Lyons papers state that for the last ten years the Protestant service has been celebrated openly in St. Bel, about four leagues from Lyons. A fortnight past, the Mayor of St. Bel, acting on the authority of the prefect, ordered the Protestant Church to be closed. When the worshippers flocked to their wonted place of worship on Sunday, they found the church-doors closed, and guarded by hirsute gendarmes. Arrangements were made accordingly for them to meet in another building. On Sunday week they were rudely interrupted in the celebration of their simple service by the clash of gendarmes' spurs; a body of these rough functionaries marched up the aisle of the room which did duty for the church from which the Protestants had been driven forth, and again were they dispersed, and the names and addresses taken down.

RELIGIOUS BODIES IN AMERICA.—The following is the latest statistical account of the proportionate numbers of religious bodies in the United States:—

4,300,000 Baptists . . .	with 719,000 communicants.
3,000,000 Methodists . . .	1,200,000 "
2,175,000 Presbyterians . . .	280,000 "
1,400,000 Orthodox Congregationalists . . .	202,000 "
600,000 Episcopalians . . .	72,000 "
550,000 Lutherans . . .	140,000 "
450,000 Dutch Reformed . . .	31,000 "

Religious Intelligence.

OPENING OF REGENT'S PARK COLLEGE, HOLFORD HOUSE.

On Thursday, Holford House, Regent's-park, was opened as a college for the education of Nonconformist ministers, of the Baptist body, with provision for imparting a collegiate education to those laymen who have conscientious objections to the great colleges, in consequence of their connexion with the Established Church. Notwithstanding the weather, there was a very large gathering of the leading ministers and laymen of the Nonconformist bodies, including Sir Morton Peto, Bart., the Rev. Dr. Leifchild, the Hon. and Rev. Baptist W. Noel, the Rev. Dr. Angus, Principal of the College, the Rev. Dr. Harris, Principal of New College, Professor William Smith, and Professor Godwin of the same Institution; the Rev. Dr. Jabez Burns, of Paddington, the Rev. Dr. Steane, of Camberwell, the Rev. Dr. Holby, the Rev. Dr. Ackworth, and many others. Regent's Park College is to take the place of the ancient College at Stepney.

The Rev. Dr. LEIFCHILD delivered an inaugural address on the nature of the qualifications requisite for an efficient Christian ministry. He deprecated the want of earnestness which characterised the modern pulpit, and counselled the young men, students in the institution, who were arranged before him, to do their part to redeem the pulpit from such a charge. He pointed them to the stage as an illustration of what he meant, and to show that for effect it was not absolutely needful that their addresses should be always extempore; and he asked them, in a singularly impressive manner, if, on the stage, men were able to recite the fictions of another so as to make the most powerful impressions, oftentimes, although the audience knew well beforehand what they were going to say, why should not the minister of religion be able to make similar, and even still deeper impressions when proclaiming the solemn and awful verities of the Christian faith?

Sir MORTON PETO, Bart., presided at the dinner, and congratulated the friends upon the auspicious aspect of affairs. He urged the importance of having a pure atmosphere, and everything calculated to elevate rather than to depress the mind, in a place where young men were to devote four years to consecutive study. He dwelt at great length upon the importance of the provision made for the reception of lay students. He said he intended to send his own boys there, in preference to Eton, Harrow, and the great colleges of Oxford and Cambridge; because, having himself left the Established Church for conscientious motives, he was anxious that his sons should grow up independent and enlightened members of Churches of the Nonconformist order. He had no doubt but that numbers of intelligent and influential Nonconformist laymen would give their sons the advantages afforded by Holford House, under the able superintendence of his friend

the Rev. Dr. Angus. He denied that there was any want of confidence in the colleges on the part of the Nonconformist bodies. At Holford House the teaching would be such as Howe and Bunyan, if now alive, would approve. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. Dr. Angus, the principal of the College, and for many years principal of the old college at Stepney, next spoke. He confined himself chiefly to the pecuniary aspect of the question. The price which had been originally asked for Holford-house was 23,040*l.*, but they had purchased it for 8,000*l.* (Cheers, and laughter.) It was insured for 20,000*l.*, so that there was no doubt as to the real value of the property. In fact, they considered they had made one of the most remarkable bargains ever obtained in this great city. The mansion had been erected at a very enormous cost, and was now in a state of substantial repair. It had been carefully surveyed, and the surveyor had informed them that the building had been erected in so substantial a manner, that the annual outlay for repairs would not exceed the amount which would be required for any new building half its size, which they might have erected on the contract system. (Laughter and cheers.) They had had to suffer in the usual way from the dilatory routine of the Woods and Forests, in coming to an arrangement; but it was only due to the gentlemen connected with that department to state that their reception had been most courteous; in fact, he could not help contrasting, in his mind, their reception with the manner in which persons going on such an errand would have been received some fifty or sixty years ago in the same office. They had taken the place on a lease for 28 years. The Stepney property, being freehold, would not be sold, as this was only leasehold—(loud cheers)—but it would pay the ground-rent, and afford about 100*l.* a year towards the current expenses. They would have to give 1,000*l.* for fixtures, substantial and decorative, and this would make 9,000*l.* He thought that every expense would be covered by about 9,200*l.* The place was at present available for forty students, and could be made to accommodate a much larger number at a comparatively small cost. About a hundred of the friends had promised 4,000*l.*, confiding in the prudence of the committee, before the place was selected; and when it turned out that the expenses were to be greater than had been anticipated, a second appeal was made to these parties, and they subscribed amongst them 1,000*l.* more. (Cheers.) One gentleman who, many years ago, had applied for admission into Stepney, but who was then advised to continue his secular occupations, which he did successfully, had written to say that he had thought of giving 300*l.*, but he offered 1,000*l.*, on condition that he should receive 40*l.* a-year as long as he lived; he was over sixty years of age, and the offer was gratefully accepted. (Hear, hear.) He had offered a second 1,000*l.* on the same terms (that being all his property), and it was also accepted. (Hear, hear.) This gentleman had been in the habit of preaching, and supporting himself by his mill; but now he was going to give up business and confine himself to preaching, living upon these annuities. (Hear, hear.) Another gentleman, upon whom he had called, had shown him his will, in which he left them 500*l.* free of legacy duty. (Cheers.) Under these circumstances, they felt encouraged to go on. (Cheers.) Their annual expenditure would be 500*l.* extra; but he hoped they would easily raise this, as their annual subscriptions at present amounted only to 350*l.* (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. Dr. HARRIS and the Hon. and Rev. BAPTIST W. NOEL subsequently addressed the assembly. Mr. Noel ably set forth the necessity for, and the advantages of an educated ministry, and urged the students to be preachers of the Gospel, and not mere platform orators and philosophical lecturers.

After some observations from the Rev. F. TUCKER, votes of thanks were passed to the Rev. Dr. Leifchild, for his inaugural address, and to Sir Morton Peto, Bart., for presiding, and the company dispersed to view the building.

In the evening tea was provided, and the usual annual meeting was held, at which a number of addresses were delivered. The report was read and adopted, and resolutions of the ordinary character were agreed to.

SIR JOS. PAXTON, M.P., AT THE LAYING OF A FOUNDATION-STONE.

The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of St. Michael's Baptist Chapel, took place on the 9th inst., in the presence of a large number of spectators. The proceedings commenced by the Rev. R. G. Williams giving out a hymn, which having been sung, the Rev. I. New engaged in prayer. The first stone, beneath which was a bottle containing the three local papers, and a piece of parchment with an inscription thereon, was then laid by Apsley Pellatt, Esq., M.P., who said that it was with extreme pleasure that he had the honour of laying the first stone of that most important edifice; and the deep interest he found was taken in that day's proceedings by the people of Coventry, gave him a high sense of the value entertained by them of religious teaching. He hoped that the building they were about to erect would be devoted to the instruction of the ignorant, the edification of the saints, and the glory of Almighty God. The honourable gentleman concluded by referring to the effects of Christianity upon the country; and with respect to our Sunday scholars, observed, that it was a sight on which foreigners might look, and from which they would learn something as to what could be done by the voluntary system applied to religion. He trusted that that system would be indeed blessed, and would be found to thrive abundantly in the building the first stone of which he had just laid. (Applause.) The 87th hymn was then sung, and a part of the 17th chapter of the 1st Book of Chronicles was read, and

the Rev. W. T. Rosevear having offered prayer, the meeting separated. The dinner took place in the Corn Exchange, at three o'clock in the afternoon, and about 230 persons were present. The Rev. W. T. Rosevear presided, and was supported by A. Pellatt, Esq., M.P., Aldermen W. Sargent and H. Browett, Messrs. T. Hill, W. H. Hill, T. Browett, and Revs. R. P. Macmaster, R. W. Dale, I. New, E. J. Sadler, R. G. Williams, — Vince, &c. The Doxology having been sung as a thanksgiving, and the cloth drawn, the PRESIDENT proposed the health of "The Queen," with the usual honours, which was followed by "The health of Mr. Apsley Pellatt," who was, he said, a gentleman that employed all the influence of his position as a citizen, a merchant, and a senator, for the advance of the great cause of civil and religious liberty. His kindness in so quickly and cordially responding to the invitation to lay the foundation-stone of St. Michael's Baptist Chapel would not soon be forgotten by them. He had great pleasure in presenting the trowel to Mr. Pellatt. (Loud cheers.) [This trowel, with which the ceremony was performed, is of silver, elegantly ornamented and finished in a superior style by Messrs. Elkington and Co., of Birmingham. It bears the following inscription: "Presented by the Rev. W. T. Rosevear and the Building Committee to Apsley Pellatt, Esq., M.P., on the occasion of his laying the foundation-stone of St. Michael's Baptist Chapel, Coventry, October 9, 1856."]

Mr. PELLATT in the course of his reply entered into some details as to his early career, and went on to say that that trowel with which he had just been presented was the third gift of the kind he had received that year. One was from the Reformed Wesleyans, one from the body with which he was connected,—the Independents, and the third was the one he had received that moment. (Cheers.) The honourable gentleman went on to remark on some of the triumphs that Nonconformists had lately achieved.

The PRESIDENT then proposed "The healths of the various Christian Ministers who were assembled there that evening."—The Rev. I. New responded. He expressed his conviction that the scenes of that day would inspire them, would give them high hopes, noble desires, and lofty aspirations. (Cheers.)—Sir Joseph Paxton, who arrived while Mr. New was speaking, was received with enthusiastic cheers.

The PRESIDENT next proposed "The health of the City Members," and said of Sir Joseph Paxton that he was the representative of a much larger constituency than that of Coventry—he was the representative, in some measure, of the thought, the brain, the arts, science, and manufactures of the people of England. (Cheers.) He did not speak in the language of eulogy, but of truth, when he said that Sir Joseph's name was writing itself on the scroll of history.

Sir JOSEPH PAXTON, in rising to reply, said that he stood there in what he thought rather an awkward position. He had intended to have been present at all the ceremonies of the day; he had that desire, but he had been prevented. On the previous day, he had presided at the meeting of an agricultural society in North Derbyshire, of which he was president for the year. He rose at half-past six that morning, in order to get there early; but, though he was a director of the line of railway by which he travelled, he found that he arrived at Rugby too late to get to Coventry at once, and he had been detained there for some hours. This reminded him of a little affair that happened a few weeks ago. He was presiding at a dinner at which it was anticipated a distinguished foreigner would have been present. He did not come, however, till long after the cloth had been removed. In apologising for his absence, the guest said that he had consulted their famous book, *Bradshaw*, and finding that a train was marked "Parliamentary," he took it, anticipating that it would be the best and swiftest. (Laughter.) Now, though he (Sir Joseph Paxton) knew better than the foreigner as to the merits of Parliamentary trains, yet he was obliged to take one, or he would not have reached Coventry at all that day. Referring to the subject that had occasioned that gathering, the honourable gentleman observed, that he was glad to see a spirit of cordial good feeling existing between the various religious bodies in that town. Churchman as he was, he still liked to see all who had in view the promotion of knowledge and religion successful in their undertakings. He was sure, too, that his colleague was a man of the utmost liberality of principle. He was glad to be there that day to render to them any assistance in his power, for so long as his constituents had any great and good object in view, he should be most happy to assist him. The present was not the time when men were to be persecuted because of the opinions they might entertain. They very often heard of the days of "good Queen Bess." He might be pardoned if he said that he preferred those of Victoria. In 1575 two Anabaptists were burned in Smithfield, because they held views in relation to the baptism of our Saviour different to those promulgated by the Established Church, which then had not sooner safely escaped from persecution from Catholicism, than it began to persecute on its own account. He was rejoiced that that day had passed for ever—rejoiced that persons of whatever religious persons were free to worship according to the dictates of conscience. (Loud and continued cheering.) The Rev. R. W. DALE, of Birmingham, then addressed the meeting in a long and excellent speech. The Revs. VINCE and BROWN also addressed the meeting, and the PRESIDENT then gave a toast, "The Town Council," coupling with it the names of Aldermen Browett and W. Sargeant, who responded in appropriate speeches.

The amount collected during the day towards the building fund, amounted to 114*l.* 19*s.*, including 25*l.*

from Sir Joseph Paxton and 5*l.* 5*s.* from Apsley Pellatt, Esq.—Abridged from the *Coventry Herald*.

BONNER'S-FIELDS.—A pleasing instance of that alliance between Christians of different Churches which ought to be so common as to excite no remark, occurred a Sunday or two ago in Bonner's-fields. It had been announced by advertisement that the Rev. Newman Hall, of Surrey Chapel, would preach at the entrance to Victoria-park. The Rev. Hugh Allen, Vicar of St. Jude's, Whitechapel, gave notice of the service, and he was on the ground at the time announced, with the choir of his church, to lead the singing. After a hymn, at the request of Mr. N. Hall, Mr. Allen offered an extempore prayer. Mr. Hall then addressed the people, who numbered about 1,000, from the words, "I have set before you an open door and no man can shut it." He made a short allusion to the fact of the door of the park having been shut against the preachers of the Gospel, but expressed the hope that in answer to prayer the door might be opened next season so that no one could shut it.

BRADFORD SUNDAY-SCHOOL CANVASS.—A meeting of the friends of the Sunday-school Union was held on Thursday evening, in the theatre of the Mechanics' Institute. The attendance of teachers and others was large. The Mayor (Wm. Murgatroyd, Esq.) presided; and was supported by the Rev. H. Dowson, Rev. J. P. Chown, Rev. T. Vasey, Rev. D. Trover, Rev. J. R. Campbell, Rev. D. Sim, John Rawson, Esq., Mr. Wm. Byles, and Mr. Councillor Pollard, &c. The report stated that the simultaneous canvass had been the chief movement of the Union during the past year. It had been found that there were 7,000 young persons in Bradford who did not attend Sunday schools, but idled about the streets of the town; the canvass therefore took place, and occupied from two to four Sundays in various districts. As a general rule, the canvassers met with a courteous reception; in the Roman Catholic districts alone was there any disinclination to afford the information desired. There were 657 canvassers, 15,510 houses were visited, containing 25,630 young persons, between 4 and 18 years of age, and 18,700, or 1 in 6 of the population, attending Sunday-schools, but only 1 in 9 in attendance at any one time. Out of 2,663 promises to attend, 1,630 had been faithfully fulfilled, and it was very probable that some 200 or 300 more had redeemed their pledge since the returns were made up. At the time when the canvass commenced, want of clothes prevented many from attending; but trade had improved since then, and that excuse could not now prevail. There had been 100 additional teachers gained by the canvass. The committee, in conclusion, recommended that the canvassers should renew their visits at an early period.—Abridged from the *Bradford Observer*.

CHULMLEIGH, DEVON.—The Rev. John Fernie has entered upon his stated labours in this town as pastor of the Congregational Church, in compliance with a cordial and unanimous invitation given to him.

EDGBASTON.—The new Congregational Chapel, at Edgbaston, was opened for Divine worship the morning of Wednesday, the 8th inst. A very numerous congregation attended. The Rev. J. A. James preached. Having gone through the various branches of his discourse, Mr. James remarked, that it was now fifty-two years since he came to preach the Gospel in Birmingham, and it was indeed a pleasure to him that that building should be erected near a residence he had occupied during the whole of that period. In the course of the half century he had been among them, the population of Birmingham had tripled; its wealth had wonderfully increased; and its religious advantages had multiplied almost twenty-fold. He had witnessed the erection of about twenty churches of the Establishment; and what to him was still more gratifying, with few exceptions, pure Evangelism, free from all Tractarianism, was preached from the pulpits of these temples. He had also witnessed the erection or enlargement of about sixteen Methodist chapels, and of sixteen or seventeen Dissenting chapels, to say nothing of Jewish synagogues, and various Roman Catholic places of worship. Notwithstanding this increase, the religious places of assembly only bore the same proportion to the population as they did when he first came to Birmingham. Of the 260,000 souls in this town, there was church and chapel accommodation for only 70,000, and it was painful to think what a fearful immoral condition thousands must consequently be in and remain in. The elegant structure in which they were assembled had cost more than 7,000*l.* It was a wrong impression that the erection thereof arose entirely from the jubilee fund his congregation generously raised on his completing his fifty years' ministry among them, as the building of a chapel on that spot had been previously contemplated. It was deemed wise to unite the two streams of liberality in one. The 1,600*l.* raised for the jubilee chapel was a high compliment to him, and one he felt he did not deserve. Altogether, more than 4,000*l.* had been raised towards the 7,000*l.*, thus leaving a large amount yet to be discharged. The men who gave the 4,000*l.* would be found to be the men in process of time, by the help of their neighbours, to pay the other 3,000*l.* The reverend gentleman, on the part of himself, his colleague, the Rev. R. W. Dale, and the minister of Ebenezer Chapel, the Rev. J. K. Stallybrass, disclaimed all feelings of jealousy in relation to the building of a new place of worship connected with their denomination, and declared that they were greatly rejoiced thereat; and concluded by an earnest appeal for their pecuniary assistance to pay off the 3,000*l.* debt. In the course of the service (in which Mr. Dale and Mr. Stallybrass took part), a collection was made, amounting to the very liberal sum of 376*l.* In the evening, the Rev. J. K. Stallybrass

preached, and the collection amounted to upwards of 80L.

RILLINGTON.—ORDINATION SERVICES.—On Tuesday, Oct. 14, the ordination of the Rev. N. Woodcock as minister of the Independent Church and congregation, took place in the chapel, Rillington. The reverend gentleman has recently removed to that place from Lofthouse, having received a unanimous call from the congregational interest, to which he has been set apart. The Rev. T. Phillips, of Robin Hood's Bay, opened the service by reading the Scriptures and prayer, after which the Rev. H. P. Bowen, of Middlesborough, gave the introductory discourse, which was a masterly and lucid exposition of the Church polity of the Independents. The Rev. A. McGill, of Kirby-Moorside, asked the usual questions, to which the Rev. N. Woodcock gave very interesting and satisfactory replies. The Rev. H. Howard offered the ordination prayer, which was accompanied by the imposition of the hands of the ministry. The morning service was concluded by the Rev. J. C. Potter, of Whitby. An excellent dinner was provided at the Coach and Horses Inn, after which various complimentary toasts were given. In the evening the services were continued, the Rev. A. McGill introducing the service. The Rev. J. Potter gave the charge to the minister, and the Rev. J. T. Shawcross the charge to the people. The Rev. N. Woodcock concluded the service by prayer. The whole of the day's proceedings were deeply interesting; the evening services were very well attended. The greatest praise is due to the friends at Rillington for the liberal manner in which they received and entertained friends from a distance.

RINGWOOD.—A public tea-meeting was held at Ebenezer Chapel, in this town, on Wednesday evening, October 15th, when many persons of different religious denominations were present. The object of the gathering was to defray the expenses of the improved ventilation of the chapel. After tea the public meeting was held, William Tice, Esq., of Sopley, presiding. He was supported by the Rev. A. MacLaren, of Southampton; the Rev. Hector Macmillan, of Bournemouth; the Rev. T. Holmes, of Wimbourne; the Rev. Morgan Williams, of Fordingbridge; and the Rev. Francis Baron, of Ripley. The Rev. Oswald Jackson, as pastor of the church, read letters from ministers and friends who were unable to be present. After various addresses, Mr. Jackson, in returning thanks on behalf of his people to the friends who had provided the trays and presided at them, to the strangers from Fordingbridge, Wimbourne, Ripley, and other places, presented a vote of thanks to the ministers who had come so far and had taken such an acceptable part in the proceedings. He said it was particularly cheering to find, they, as a Church and people, were the objects of so much sympathy and kindness from so many Churches and individuals in the neighbouring counties, and not least of the friends among the Wesleyan, Baptist, and Established Church, as were then present.

STOKE NEWINGTON.—Mr. William Dovey, who for nearly twenty years was pastor of the Particular Baptist Church, meeting at Jamaica-row Chapel, Southwark, but late of Halesworth, Suffolk, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Particular Baptist Church worshipping in Salem Chapel, Church-street, Stoke Newington, to become their pastor. Mr. Dovey entered upon his pastoral labours on the 1st inst.

THE REV. DANIEL JENNINGS, late of Hampstead, has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation from the Baptist Church, Newport, Isle of Wight, to become their minister, and enters immediately on the duties of his pastorate.

THE REV. J. F. ALEXANDER, late of Chichester, has accepted a unanimous invitation to become the minister of Stretton-under-Forse, near Rugby, and begun his labour there on the first Sunday in September.

VERULAM CHAPEL, KENNINGTON-ROAD LAMBETH.—The Rev. J. Barfitt has accepted the unanimous invitation of the church and congregation assembling in the above chapel, and purposes entering upon his stated labours the first Sabbath in November. The forms of service are according to those of the Established Church, and Mr. Barfitt will have associated with him the Rev. T. Ray, Principal of the Collegiate School, Peckham.

YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION IN AID OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The Annual Members' Meeting of the above Association was held at the Mission House, on Tuesday evening, the 14th inst., James Benham, Esq., in the chair. Dr. Angus, Vice-President, had engaged to preside, but was prevented by duties connected with the opening of the new College; he was, however, present in the course of the evening, and addressed the members. After the presentation of the annual report, the thanks of the meeting were given to the gentlemen who held office during the past year, and the following were unanimously elected for the ensuing year, viz.:—Auditors, Messrs. J. Benham, J. E. Tresidder, and Wm. Olvey. Treasurer, Mr. John Francis. Secretary, Mr. John Templeton. Curator to the Museum, Mr. James Hinton. After the election of the Committee, the meeting separated.

Correspondence.

DISSENTERS MARRYING AT CHURCH.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—*Appropos* to recent letters on the new Marriage Act, I see in the usual place for such announcements a notification of the marriage of a well-known Dissenting minister to the daughter of a well-known Dissenting layman, at a church, and, of course, by a State-Church clergyman.

This is, no doubt, in accordance with Evangelical Alliance principles; but is there any likelihood of reciprocity in such matters? It is all very well to struggle for the amendment of Dissenting marriage

laws; but if Dissenters prefer paying the conventional homage at the altars of the Establishment, *cui bono?* STAUNCH.

NEGATIVE THEOLOGY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Statements recently put forth are calculated to make those who with myself cling to the old positive theology of our fathers, alarmed at the prospect of a large desertion, led by Mr. Lynch. Extracts from this gentleman's writings have been given to the public, leading to the inference that he is a semi, if not an altogether, Unitarian. No defence of Mr. Lynch has appeared for many months, but a pamphlet has just been issued by "Silent Long," on the "Ethics of Quotation," containing genuine extracts from his works. Great will be the surprise of those who read this pamphlet to find, in Mr. Lynch's own words, the most emphatic denial of Unitarianism, and the most explicit avowal of Evangelical sentiments; greater still will be the indignation at discovering that Mr. Lynch has been subjected to the grossest injustice by his words having been *partially* quoted and wrested from their connexion, so that an impression is produced the very opposite to truth. Only let any candid person examine calmly the passages thus referred to, and he will feel indignant that so holy a thing as the old positive theology should have been advocated in connexion with glaring injustice. Into thousands of homes have slanderous attacks on Mr. Lynch been introduced by means of a fund for gratuitous circulation. Surely, in the name of common justice, the same means should be resorted to for the purpose of enabling the public to *hear both sides*. It is because I am jealous for the honour of the old positive theology that I am anxious to see fair play in this matter. It will surprise me very much if ere long the tide of battle will not turn away from the supposed advocacy of negative theology, to the actual practice of a negative morality. I shall be happy to contribute a sovereign towards this object. I do it in the name of Evangelical religion and of justice.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
AN OLD POSITIVE THEOLOGIAN.

REVIEWERS REVIEWED.*

THE present will not, we imagine, be considered a strong number of the *Westminster*. At least, we fancy to have missed something of its wonted sparkling character. We have certainly seen numbers which in a literary point of view have been more to our taste. It would be hardly just, and would convey a false impression, to speak of that before us as tame, but it is less stirring and lively than usual. It would seem as though in the present lull of party politics the writers had determined to have a nap too—

—quandoque bonus dormitat Homerus—

or, perhaps, the chiefs of the staff have been on furlough at Scarborough and Bournemouth, far from the torment of printer's demands for copy. If so, the editor will have cause to speak well of the "ill wind" and rainy weather, which will by this time have come to his aid in rallying the runaways, since after the secession of able pens to the *National* he can have no strength to spare.

The papers most in the true *Westminster* vein are those on "Silly Novels by Lady Novelists," and on "Emerson's English Traits." The former is a dreadful onslaught, and is likely to cause a pretty flutter amongst the *blues*. It may be doubted whether even an advocacy of "Women's Rights," so sturdy, able, and flattering to the sex, as that maintained by the gallant writer of a previous article on "The Property of Married Women," will avail to ward off from the devoted head of his brother reviewer the storm of feminine indignation. The sinner himself seems to be not without a consciousness of the scrape into which he has got, since he deems it necessary to make some sort of apology; though he stumbles upon a vindication of himself so awkward, that the parties aggrieved will most likely deem it a wanton aggravation of his offence. "After all," he has the impudence to say, "the severer critics are fulfilling a chivalrous duty in depriving the mere fact of feminine authorship of any false prestige which may give it a delusive attraction, and in recommending women of mediocre faculties—as at least a negative service they can render their sex—to abstain from writing."

One piece of forbearance, however, the remorseless savage does not forget to exercise towards his lady victims. *He suppresses their names*; so that, since their novels are read by very few people of sense, they will suffer less than they otherwise would in the estimation of those whose opinion is worth having. The following are some of the principal types under which he classifies these peccant productions of the busy idleness of Belgravia, as he seems to think they must be deemed.

THE MIND AND MILLINERY SPECIES.

"The heroine is usually an heiress, probably a peeress in her own right, with perhaps a vicious baronet, an amiable duke, and an irresistible younger son of a marquis, as lovers in the foreground, a clergyman and a poet sighing for her in the middle distance, and a crowd of undefined adorners dimly indicated beyond. Her eyes and her wit are both dazzling; her nose and her morals are alike free from any irregularity; she has a superb *contralto* and a superb intellect; she is perfectly well-dressed and perfectly religious; she dances like a sylph, and reads the Bible in the original tongues. Or it may be that the heroine is not an heiress—that rank and

wealth are the only things in which she is deficient; but she infallibly gets into high society, she has the triumph of refusing many matches and securing the best, and she wears some family jewels, or other sort of crown of righteousness at the end. Rakish men either bite their lips in impotent confusion at her repartees, or are touched to penitence by her reproofs, which on appropriate occasions rise to a lofty strain of rhetoric; indeed, there is a general propensity in her to make speeches, and to rhapsodize at some length when she retires to her bedroom. In her recorded conversations she is amazingly eloquent, and in her unrecorded conversations amazingly witty. She is understood to have a depth of insight that looks through and through the shallow theories of philosophers, and her superior instincts are a sort of dial by which men have only to set their clocks and watches, and all will go well. The men play a very subordinate part by her side. You are consoled now and then by a hint that they have affairs, which keeps you in mind that the working-day business of the world is somehow being carried on, but ostensibly the final cause of their existence is that they may accompany the heroine on her 'starring' expedition through life. They see her at a ball, and are dazzled; at a flower-show, and they are fascinated; on a riding excursion, and they are witched by her noble horsemanship; at church, and they are awed by the sweet solemnity of her demeanour. She is the ideal woman in feelings, faculties, and flounces. For all this, she as often as not marries the wrong person to begin with, and she suffers terribly from the plots and intrigues of the vicious baronet; but even death has a soft place in his heart for such a paragon, and remedies all mistakes for her just at the right moment. The vicious baronet is sure to be killed in a duel, and the tedious husband dies in his bed requesting his wife, as a particular favour to him, to marry the man she loves best, and having already dispatched a note to the lover informing him of the comfortable arrangement. Before matters arrive at this desirable issue, our feelings are tried by seeing the noble, lovely, and gifted heroine, pass through many *mauvais moments*, but we have the satisfaction of knowing that her sorrows are wept into embroidered pocket-handkerchiefs, that her fainting form reclines on the very best upholstery, and that whatever vicissitudes she may undergo, from being dashed out of her carriage to having her head shaved in a fever, she comes out of them all with a complexion more blooming and locks more redundant than ever."

Examples: "Compensation," "Laura Gay," "Rank and Beauty."

THE ORACULAR SPECIES.

"The most pitiable of all silly novels by lady novelists are what we may call the *oracular species*—novels intended to expound the writers religious, philosophical, or moral theories. There seems to be a notion abroad among women, rather akin to the superstition that the speech and actions of idiots are inspired, and that the human being most entirely exhausted of common sense is the fittest vehicle of revelation. To judge from their writings, there are certain ladies who think that an amazing ignorance both of science and of life, is the best possible qualification for forming an opinion on the knottiest moral and speculative questions. Apparently, their recipe for solving all such difficulties is something like this: Take a woman's head, stuff it with a smattering of philosophy and literature chopped small, and with false notions of society baked hard, let it hang over a desk a few hours every day, and serve up hot in feeble English, when not required. You will rarely meet with a lady novelist of the oracular class who is diffident of her ability to decide on theological questions,—who has any suspicion that she is not capable of discriminating with the nicest accuracy between the good and evil in all Church parties,—who does not see precisely how it is that men have gone wrong hitherto,—and pity philosophers in general that they have not had the opportunity of consulting her. Great writers who have modestly contented themselves with putting their experience into fiction, and have thought it quite a sufficient task to exhibit men and things as they are, she sighs over as deplorably deficient in the application of their powers. 'They have solved no great questions,'—and she is ready to remedy their omission by setting before you a complete theory of life and manual of divinity, in a love story, where ladies and gentlemen of good family go through genteel vicissitudes, to the utter confusion of Deists, Puseyites, and ultra-Protestants, and to the establishment of that particular view of Christianity which either condenses itself into a sentence of small caps, or explodes into a cluster of stars on the 330th page."

Example: "The Enigma: a Leaf from the Chronicles of the Wolcherly House."

THE WHITE NECK-CLOTH SPECIES.

"A more numerous class of silly novels than the oracular (which are generally inspired by some form of High Church, or transcendental Christianity), is what we may call the *white neck-cloth species*, which represent the tone of thought and feeling in the Evangelical party. This species is a kind of genteel tract on a large scale, intended as a kind of medicinal sweetmeat for Low Church young ladies; an Evangelical substitute for the fashionable novel, as the May Meetings are a substitute for the Opera. Even Quaker children, one would think, can hardly have been denied the indulgence of a doll; but it must be doll dressed in a drab gown and a coal-scuttle bonnet—not a worldly doll in gauze and spangles. And there are no young ladies, we imagine,—unless they belong to the Church of the United Brethren, in which people are married without any love-making*—who can dispense with love stories. Thus for Evangelical young ladies there are Evangelical love stories. These novels differ from the oracular ones, as a Low Churchwoman often differs from a High Churchwoman: they are less supercilious, and a great deal more ignorant, a little less correct in their syntax, and a great deal more vulgar."

Example: "The Old Grey Church."

The critique of "Emerson's English Traits" awards that remarkable book due but discriminating praise. The reviewer happily hits off the epigrammatic American's style, when he describes it as "the spade-husbandry kind of writing," and applies to his skill

* We beg leave to set the reviewer right on this point. The use of the *lot* in matrimonial matters has been recently abolished amongst the Moravians, except in the instance of parties who may desire it.

fully and even painfully elaborated little sentences, what his book says of the plots of English soil, that "they are finished with a pencil rather than with a plough." His exposures of the absurdities into which Emerson is often betrayed by his fondness for illustration, are sometimes very amusing. Thus on Emerson's instancing in corroboration of the remark, that "the best nations are those most widely related," the physiological fact that the lowest organisations are simplest, "a mere mouth, a jelly," whilst in the higher the organisations are more complex, his critic shrewdly observes: "We may enjoy the pleasure of contradicting this if we please. The Greeks, Arabs, and Jews were of a simple race; they were, to use the physiological language, mere 'mouths and jellies.' The Byzantine Greeks were mongrels, so were the Egyptians of the Delta under the Romans, so are the modern Mexicans. We confess that looking at these instances the jellies seem to us to have the best of it." Again, when Emerson says, "Perhaps the ocean serves as a galvanic battery to distribute acids at one pole, and alkalis at the other. So England tends to accumulate her Liberals in America, and her Conservatives in London,"—the ruthless reviewer robs the brilliant simile of all its electricity by silly remarking that "the English mind does not undergo any great chemical change during the voyage to Calcutta." On the whole, however, the great merits of the book are frankly recognised, and the "potted beef" is devoured with an evident relish—perhaps with none the less because accompanied by a little harmless grumbling.

The paper on "Alchemy and Alchemists"—to pass back at a bound from the last to the first in the number—is not without its attractions, but the romance of the subject has hardly had justice done it. On the other hand, the writer's remarks on the curious approximation between the tendencies of modern chemical discovery and some of the fundamental postulates of the mediæval forerunners of Davy and Faraday, are very interesting and instructive. The alchemists regarded the metals as compound bodies, and this is not unlikely to turn out to be the fact. It is not stated that any metal has been actually analysed as yet, but existing analogies point to the conclusion that future chemists, if not some now living, will succeed in decomposing them. Of one of them, *ammonium*, it is already nearly certain that it is not a simple body. Hence it is the less surprising to find, that "George Forster"—of whom a biographical sketch is given in the fifth article—in common with not a few others of the *illuminati* of the last century, was for some time a devout believer in alchemy. The alliance between science and Rosicrucianism is one of the most startling phenomena amongst the many such which are furnished by the strangely fermenting times which produced the first or great French Revolution; and can hardly be wholly explained from the proverbial connexion between scepticism and credulity. For the rest, we hardly think that Forster, even granting that the historian of Captain Cook's circumnavigation may be considered as in some sense the forerunner of Humboldt, was entitled to the prominence which is here accorded to him. The article is readable, certainly, but of the hundred who will ask as they scan its title, "George Forster," "Well, and who's he?" ninety-nine, we imagine, will be very much inclined to repeat the question at the close of their perusal. We ought to be thankful to our reviewers for recalling public attention, as they not seldom succeed in doing, to forgotten but important men; but this attempt to do so strikes us as what in the game of peg in the ring is, we believe, technically styled a "mull." No-body cares for nobodies, unless they be living nobodies. Let the dead bury their dead.—The "Women's Rights" article, the third in the number, we commend to the attention of those who have, or would like to have, wives. As mere outsiders, we should say the "Revolt of the Harem" is getting rather serious. With the Law Amendment Society and the *Westminster* on their side, and *Blackwood* with its usual penchant for a losing game against them, the ladies of the creation seem likely to carry it hollow against the lords. Whether the proposed system of separate estates for the spouses will work well, should it become law—as 20,000 irresistible petitioners to Parliament are determined that it shall—time, we suppose, will show. What Mr. Carlyle thinks about this new step in the progress of "emancipation," in which his own better half appears to be taking so prominent a part, perhaps he will write another "Latter Day Pamphlet" to tell us. Of course, in such a connexion he will be more mannerly than to talk of "Farmer Hodge's emancipated horses," or the consequences to him may be such as we will not trust our imagination to conceive.

Of the three remaining articles, that on "Buddhism: Mythical and Historical," we regard as of very great value. We venture to say there is not to be found in the language, at least within the same compass, an account of the subject equally correct and authentic.

The great French orientalist Burnouf and Saint-Hilaire, not forgetting our own countryman, Major Cunningham, of the Bengal Engineers, have recently brought to light new documents and inscriptions relative to Buddhism, the life of its founder and the history of its propagation, of the most important and interesting kind. The mythical veil may now be lifted, and the real facts as to the origin of this religion—if religion it may be called, which, properly speaking, has no God—under which four hundred millions of the human race now live, are for the first time given to the West. The reviewer has diligently availed himself of the new researches, and has produced an essay, which all who would become acquainted with the truth about this astounding system of oriental Stoicism must make a point of studying. It is now placed beyond all doubt that Buddha is a real and historical, not a mythical personage, as many of the profoundest scholars of modern times have too hastily assumed. His mundane name was Sākya-Muni, and he was born, according to the date now authoritatively settled, in the year 623 B.C., at Kapilavastu, the capital of Kapila, on the banks of the Rohini, and near the mountains which separate Nepal from Gorakhpur. He was the son of Suddhodana, the king of the country, and at the desire of his royal father, who was alarmed at his early tendency to asceticism, and to wander in the forest for the purpose of solitary meditation, he married, in his sixteenth year, the beautiful and virtuous Gopā. But overwhelmed with a sense of the vanity of the world, he resolved to withdraw from it.

"In vain Suddhodana, discovering the intention of his son, caused him to be watched, and the outlets of the palace to be guarded. Sākya-Muni escaped, and entered on the life of a religious mendicant in the twenty-ninth year of his age. He then resorted to several eminent Brahmins, and proved by a profound study of their system, the insufficiency of their doctrine. Afterwards he devoted himself for six years to a life of the most rigorous asceticism, rather as a test and evidence of his qualifications for his mission of Reformer, than as really seeking the way of deliverance from human ills in vain austerities. At the end of that period he relaxed in the rigours of his life, and was, in consequence, forsaken by the five disciples, who had hitherto adhered to him with fidelity. The scene of Sākya's eremetic life was Uruvilva on the banks of the Nairandiyana, the modern Phalgu. He then resumed his pilgrimages, his sole garment formed of the coarse shroud, in which had been rolled the body of a female slave, one of his hearers, drawn by him from her grave and sewn together with his own hands. On his route north-westward from Uruvilva, he seats himself under the Banana of Bodhimanda, and remains plunged in abstraction for weeks; here he overcomes the fear of death, and by successive meditations, passes through the intelligence of the Bodhisatwa to the pure and perfect wisdom of the Buddha. He was now qualified to declare to mankind the efficacy of *Dharmma* and the final emancipation of *Nirvana*."

This self-annihilation as the only means of escape from the ills of life, and the horrors of endless transmigrations, is the bait which Buddhism holds out to its followers. The "Four Sublime Verities," which form the basis of the system, are: 1. As to pain, that it is; 2. As to the cause of pain, that it is desire; 3. A consolatory truth, that pain can be ended by Nirvāna; 4. Is the method which conducts to Nirvāna, or, as Colebrook interprets the term, "unceasing apathy." The writer of the essay is a master of analysis, and we may add, of intelligible exposition. He has even entered into his subject with too much sympathy, since he has evidently half become a Buddhist himself, and thinks the doctrine of transmigration would be an embellishment to the Christian creed! We advise him to study the Gospel as carefully as he has done Buddhism, before he again talks so flippantly about it. The article on "France before the Revolution in '89," *apropos* of De Tocqueville's masterly work on that subject, is solid and substantial, and will well repay the student in political philosophy for its perusal. It is well shown, after the great French writer, that many of the evils, *e.g.*, centralisation, the constant subdivision of the land, &c., which are often ascribed to the Revolution, have really descended from the anterior period. "Edinburgh fifty years ago," is an article, the materials of which are mainly drawn from Lord Cockburn's *Memorials of his Time*. It becomes more agreeable and lively towards the close. The beginning strikes us as too stiff and formal in its arrangement. The joints stick out too much, and are not sufficiently covered with flesh. It is rather rare to find in the Westminster anything reminding us of a sermon, but these gaunt looking divisions have a very sermonic look. We much prefer the *British Quarterly's* article on the man, to the *Westminster's* on the city, where Cockburn dwelt.

Mrs. Beecher Stowe, accompanied by her two daughters and her sister, Mrs. Perkins, have, during the week, visited Oxford, where they inspected the various objects of interest with which the University abounds. At the Bodleian Library, Mrs. Stowe was shown some of the choicest treasures extant in illuminated MSS. and early printed English Bibles. Mrs. Stowe left Oxford for Ireland, but intends passing the winter in London and Paris.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

The Free-trade tendencies of the French Emperor are shown in a brief notification published on Friday, by the *Moniteur*. The official journal states that the result of the inquiry into the state of French commerce, with the view of testing how far it would be prudent to remove all prohibitive duties, has decided the Emperor to postpone the abolition of those duties until the 1st of July 1861.

A measure in conformity with this determination has been promptly presented to the Council of State. French industry, apprised of the decided intentions of the Government, [*prévenue des intentions bien arrêtées du Gouvernement*], will have all the time necessary to prepare for a new commercial régime."

The Emperor and Empress left for Compiègne on Sunday. The Imperial party was, according to all accounts, looking extremely well. Madame Admiral Bruat attended the infant, for whom an elegant cradle had been suspended in a compartment of their Majesties' state carriage. The *Moniteur* states that the Emperor's stay at Compiègne will be a fortnight. The Paris correspondent of the *Press* repeats the statement of the unpopularity of Louis Napoleon:—

It is unfortunate that the Government should be unpopular, but so it is, and there is no use in disguising the fact. Certain it is that the Emperor is not looked on by the populace as he was three months ago. This arises from various causes—first, the prolonged sojourn of the Court at Biarritz was at such a time as the present decidedly injudicious; it gave grounds for imputing to the Emperor an indifference to the welfare of his Parisian subjects, which he little deserves at their hands. Next, the expenses of the Court are without doubt enormous, and a large portion are disbursed in amusements at a distance from the capital—*viz.*, Biarritz and Compiègne; why not have them, say the Parisians, at St. Cloud, where the reflex of them would at least be shed upon us? Lastly, the price, not merely of provisions, but of house rent is enormous.

As though to disprove these statements the Emperor, on Thursday, came in an open carriage from St. Cloud to the Tuileries:—

On arriving at the Tuileries he mounted on horseback, and traversed, at a slow pace, the whole of the once formidable Faubourg St. Antoine. It was two o'clock, the hour at which the workmen were at their dinner, so that his way lay through the thick of the crowd. He was attended by a brilliant staff, and the squadron of the Cent-Gardes, complete in costume and in number, served as his escort. He rode in advance of them, and his intrepid confidence in passing through the mass of the working population at a moment of suffering and discontent, and with a display so anti-democratical, could not fail in its fascination on the lower orders of the people. The "pride, pomp, and circumstance of war" affect none more than the French, and of the French no population more than the Parisian; and therefore Napoleon III. was well and warmly received, even by those who an hour before may have murmured loudest against him. He passed on at the head of the brilliant *cortège*, glittering in their cuirasses and helmets, to St. Maur, where he held a review, and conducted the manoeuvres on the field. He returned at half-past five by the same faubourg, which was then nearly deserted, as the crowds had returned to their workshops. Some anxiety had been felt by the authorities as to the reception his Majesty might meet with, and numerous police agents in plain clothes were stationed on *echelon* along the way. The precautions, however prudent, proved unnecessary, as nothing occurred.—*Letter from Paris.*

There is news from Algiers of the 15th. Marshal Randon, before leaving the army, published an order of the day, in which, after congratulating the soldiers as having been victorious in twenty fights, he promised them that they should "conquer Kabylia in the spring."

SPAIN.

Telegraphic advices from Madrid, announce that the *désamortissement* of Church property is suspended, and all sales now pending are annulled.

The Concordat is re-established in full force and vigour, and all ordinances, provisions, and regulations to the contrary are annulled. The old mode of government of the household of the Queen has been re-established. The Governors of Corunna, Ciudad Real, Ponte Vedra, Alicante, Toledo, and Cordova are dismissed. M. Arguelles is appointed Director-General of the Colonies. The railway from Madrid to Bayonne is definitively adjudged to M. Pereire.

The *Madrid Gazette* of Monday appeared with a Royal decree, which declares that the sequestration on the property of Queen Christina is revoked. This is evidence of her new ascendancy in Spanish politics.

The *Gazette* also publishes a royal decree, granting an extended amnesty for all condemnations incurred in consequence of the events of July last.

In the decree by which Queen Isabella recognises O'Donnell's resignation, it is declared that she is "entirely satisfied with his distinguished and extraordinary services, his zeal, intelligence, and devotion." It is announced, as might have been expected, that the Marshal has occasion to make a "short visit to a foreign country." General Dulce has been allowed to go to Santander "for the benefit of his health."

A despatch in the *Madrid Gazette* from the captain-general of Seville announces that the Duchess of Montpensier, at ten minutes past nine in the evening of the 8th, happily gave birth to a robust princess.

General Don Manuel Concha had resigned all the appointments he held in the Junta of the Colonies and Council of War. He had also asked for leave to go to Granada, which was granted.

M. Isturiz is spoken of as likely to return to London, and M. Mon as about to go to Rome, in which case diplomatic relations with the Holy See will be re-established. M. Gonzalez Bravo is among

others named as the probable successor of General Serrano as Ambassador in Paris, and M. Luiz Gonzales Bravo as likely to fill the post of Minister of the Colonies.

According to all reports the substitution of Narvaez for O'Donnell was very quiet, sudden, and unexpected. On the 10th, the Queen had a ball and danced with O'Donnell, in the first place, and with Narvaez in the second. On the 11th, the Queen, evidently charmed most with the Marshal told the General that she could not agree with his law of *desamortissement*; whereupon a Cabinet Council was held. Meanwhile, Narvaez and some of his friends were admitted to a private audience, and at midnight a message was prepared for O'Donnell requiring him to resign. Then came the morning of the 12th, and O'Donnell repaired to the palace to receive from her Majesty the assurance that she would never forget the services he had rendered. The General retired and returned with the resignations of himself and colleagues. He bowed and retired a second time, and all was over. The Marshal immediately took his place, and entered upon his duties.

The Russian Envoy, Count de Benkendorf, had arrived at Madrid.

NAPLES AND THE WESTERN POWERS.

The *Moniteur* of Monday publishes the following article on this subject:—

Peace having been concluded, the first concern of the Paris Congress was to ensure its permanence. To this end the plenipotentiaries examined the perturbing elements which still exist in Europe, and directed their attention in a particular manner to the state of Italy, Greece and Belgium. The observations exchanged on that occasion were received on all hands in a friendly spirit, because they were inspired by a sincere solicitude for the repose of Europe, and were at the same time marked by due respect for the independence of all sovereign States.

Thus in Belgium the Government, sharing the opinion as to the excesses of certain organs of the press, has shown itself disposed to check them by every means in its power.

In Greece the plan of financial organisation submitted to the judgment of the protecting Courts bears witness to the desire of the Hellenic Government to respect the opinions of the Congress.

In Italy the Holy See and the other states admit the opportuneness of clemency and interior reforms.

The Court of Naples alone has rejected with disdain the counsels of France and England, although they were presented in the most friendly manner.

The measures of rigour and compression which the Government of the Two Sicilies has long since erected into a system of administration agitate all Italy, and compromise the public order of Europe. France and England being convinced of the danger attending such a situation, hoped to dissipate it by wise counsels opportunely delivered. These counsels have been misapprehended. The Government of the Two Sicilies, shutting its eyes to evidence, resolves to persevere in a fatal path.

The bad reception given to legitimate observations, an injurious doubt cast on the purity of intentions, a wounding language in opposition to salutary counsels, and finally an obstinate refusal, do not permit the longer maintenance of friendly relations.

Giving way to the suggestions of a great power, the Cabinet of Naples attempted to weaken the effect of its first reply; but this outward show of concession was only one more proof of its resolution to take no account of the solicitude of France and England for the general interests of Europe. Hesitation was no longer permissible; it was necessary to break off diplomatic relations with a court which had so thoroughly impaired their character.

This suspension of diplomatic relations does not in anywise constitute an intervention in the interior affairs of the Two Sicilies, still less is it an act of hostility.

At the same time, the two Governments, considering that the safety of their people resident in the Neapolitan territory may be compromised, have united their squadrons to provide for such a case; but they have not sent their ships into the waters of Naples, lest by so doing they should give occasion to erroneous interpretations. This simple measure of precaution, as it has nothing commissary in its character, so neither can it be considered as a support given to those who wish to shake the stability of the throne of the King of the Two Sicilies.

Should the Neapolitan Cabinet, returning to a sound appreciation of the sentiment which guides the Governments of France and England, comprehend its true interest, the two Powers would hasten to renew the same relations with it as in time past, and would esteem themselves happy in so giving a new pledge of the repose of Europe.

We have intelligence from Ajaccio to the 14th. Admiral Dundas, having received telegraphic instructions from the Admiralty by way of France, has left Ajaccio with his squadron.

The *Constitutionnel* confirms the opinion that the French squadron will not immediately sail for Naples, even should the recall of Baron Brenier become necessary. A telegraph from Marseilles says the squadron is stationed at Toulon, but was ready to put to sea.

The *Times*' Naples correspondent writes on the 12th, with respect to the report of a new administration, that Prince Satriano had not been sent for. The King was at Gaeta, and apparently still bent on resistance. The preparations for defence were continued.

The *Times*' Neapolitan correspondent, writing on the 13th, says it is true that many prisoners have been liberated. The Government admits that there are 600 political prisoners, but the number in the various prisons cannot be less than 1,700. In addition to these, there are 300 in concealment, besides those in foreign exile. The journals in the Austrian interest redouble their energy in denouncing the intervention in the affairs of Naples. Since August 30th, more than thirty persons have been arrested in Naples on a charge of collecting Murat's copper coins, which are a legal tender.

Two violent shocks of earthquake occurred at Naples on the 12th instant.

Writing on the 16th, the Neapolitan correspondent of the *Times* says: A Council of State was held at Gaeta last Monday; but I am informed that, as usual, no business of any importance was transacted, and that the Hereditary Prince presided. I must not omit, however, to state that some assert that a change of Ministers and a comprehensive amnesty were discussed. His Majesty still maintains his confidence and his pleasantness in speaking of the Allies, and on a recent occasion is said to have presented the Hereditary Prince as "King of the Two Sicilies, by the grace of England and of France."

UNITED STATES.

The principal information respecting the Presidential struggle we have given under a separate heading. The election of state officers for Pennsylvania was to come off on the 14th. The kind of preparations making for the conflict may be gathered from the following description of the great gathering of Colonel Fremont's friends at Pittsburg, in that state:—

When people woke that morning, they mistook it for Sunday. No mills were going, and scarcely a factory or shop was opened. When, in August, the Appropriation Bill was bandied from the one House to the other at Washington, the Cabinet caused the stoppage of all military works and manufactures, and needlessly turned off the mechanics, as an election manoeuvre on behalf of Buchanan: but the metal-workers of Pittsburg are not the less supporters of Fremont, and they made holiday in grand style on the day of the Convention. The fact is, some of the Free-settlers in Kansas were from Pennsylvania, and the murder or more maltreatment of one such fellow-citizen is found to excite a whole township or county. The old friends of Mr. Hoyt, who was so infamously murdered in Kansas, assembled before his house, in the beautiful New England village of Deerfield; and the performance of a dirge before his porch, while the multitude stood uncovered, is said have excited a perfectly-overwhelming emotion. Thus it has been in Pennsylvania, wherever a settler from Kansas has appeared to tell the story of his wrongs, or the mere name of some murdered victim has arrived by telegraph. One consequence was, that the Pittsburg procession, on its march to the ground of the Convention, was from seven to nine miles long. There were eight (some say ten) thousand men in it, and 100,000 were present at the Convention. The shows of the procession, now as they were, were like nothing modern, and especially nothing American. A hideous band of well got-up Border Ruffians led the way; these were followed by personations of "Mean Whites," shivering and starving under wages of ten cents a day; by a representation of the Border Ruffian camp, with its whisky-bottles, cards, weapons, and blackguards; and by a hideous workshop, under the Buchanan conditions of industry—the ruinous place with its broken windows, the half-starved people, the bad work and total cheerlessness. On the other hand, the press was carried aloft, vigorously worked, and triumphant. The ship of the Constitution was in full rig, and showing cannon from all her ports. The Buchanan Administration, with civil war, prostration of industry, and political servitude, was exhibited on the one hand; and the Fremont policy of free labour, peace, and Republican independence, on the other; while the press put the case before the nation for decision. The place and the circumstances give an importance to this Convention which can hardly be overrated; and the world will not now be surprised if the Republicans carry Pennsylvania itself, and the Union in its train.

At New York, on the 7th instant, the German Republicans had held a great demonstration, at which the greatest enthusiasm prevailed. Several election riots had taken place in Baltimore. The *Washington Union* also, the especial Government organ, has taken up the cry of disunion, if Fremont is elected.

Mr. Preston S. Brooks received a great ovation from his constituents on the 3rd inst. The people turned out in vast numbers, and strong dis-Union speeches were made by Brooks, Butler, and others. Two goblets, one gold and one silver, and two canes, were presented to the hero of the day. Mr. Sumner, over whose head he broke his old cane, was still at Philadelphia under medical treatment, and forbidden to take part in political discussions.

The elections for delegates to Congress and members of the Territorial Legislature of Kansas took place on the 6th. The result was unknown in New York. United States' troops were to be placed at all points where danger of disturbance could be apprehended.

The *New York Tribune* says: "We have authentic information to the effect that the Hon. James Buchanan lately offered to the Hon. Millard Fillmore the embassy to England as an inducement to withdraw from his (Fillmore's) present position as a Presidential candidate. We learn that this proposal was mildly and decorously declined by the distinguished Fillmore, with the suggestion that perhaps after the 14th October the distinguished Buchanan might be ready to receive a similar offer."

The Supreme Court of New York has just decided that "coloured persons" cannot legally be excluded from public carriages plying for hire by any rule of the proprietors. The case thus decided was that of a black woman who was refused a seat by the driver of one of the Empire line of omnibuses, for which refusal damages were demanded. The defendant pleaded his instructions and the regulation of the proprietors, that no coloured person should be admitted into their carriages, "as unfit for the association of white people." Judge Whiting ruled that colour is no disqualification, and that common carriers are bound to take all persons presenting themselves and tendering the usual fare, unless they are drunk, filthy in person, or of bad character. There were certain reasonable grounds of exclusion, but mere colour is not one of them; and coach proprietors cannot set up any rule contrary to the general law. The plaintiff was awarded twelve dollars damages.

The American Government has granted a warrant of extradition in the case of the French fugitives arrested on the charge of defrauding the Northern

Railway Company. They will, therefore, be given up to the French authorities. The parties are two brothers named Grelet, and Parot, a broker. Charpentier, another principal in the fraud, has escaped arrest.

The beginning of the difficulties that will prove the destruction of the Mormon community (says the *Times*' New York correspondent) has appeared: The Supreme Court of Utah has decided that the organic act extends the common law over the territory, and the act being of the nature of a constitution the common law overrides all the statutes of the Mormon Legislature. The decision renders polygamy as illegal in the territory as it is in the States, and invalidates all the laws made by order of Brigham Young. As soon as his community, now possessing the license of isolation, comes into contact with the advancing population of the States, the Theocracy is doomed; it will have to be extinguished, as a social even more than a political necessity—perhaps in blood.

Walker is reported to have made peace with Costa Rica. He has granted a monopoly of the transit across Nicaragua to "Charles Morgan" and "Cornelius K. Garrison," and has invested them with the property of the Accessory Transit Company. Hundreds of emigrants have sailed from New York for Nicaragua.

AUSTRALIA.

Advices from Melbourne, to the 9th July, have been received this week. The public business of the colony was the election of Members for its Parliament. Each of the six provinces will return five members to the Upper House, and ten Members to the Lower. But such was the political apathy, that only ten candidates for the Upper and some thirty-seven or thirty-eight for the Lower House had come before the public. The secret of this apathy is partly traceable to dissatisfaction with the constitution, and partly to the high qualification—5,000*l.* worth of real estate—required for each member of the Upper House. It was thought that the squatters were holding back in order that they might at the last moment "rush" the Upper House—a sporting phrase, that implies a waiting race and a severe push towards the close. The Melbourne correspondent of the *Times* states that there is "a large party in the country against State aid for religious purposes," favourable to an abolition of the property qualification, and universal suffrage, equal representation, and triennial Parliaments. In fact, "a Reform Bill in some shape is the staple of almost every candidate's address. An attempt had been made to unite the popular party with a view to carrying its candidates at the elections. But the party split mainly on the two great questions, "State aid to religion" and "compensation to squatters," which the majority desired to leave "open" questions, and which the minority distinctly condemned. The minority represents the ultra-Liberal section, the majority the comparatively moderate Liberals. Both parties share in common a strong opposition to property qualification, long Parliaments, and the present restricted suffrages, and each expresses its opinion that the time has come for the establishment of a Federal Assembly empowered to legislate on all intercolonial questions.

There is a "No-Popery" cry in the colony, which embarrasses the Liberal party. It is shown in the fact that Mr. Gavan Duffy refused to act with Mr. John Fawkner, "one of the very earliest settlers," because the latter had raised "something like a cry of 'No-Popery' against Gavan Duffy."

The exports of Victoria continue to exceed the imports; the exports for the first six months of the year being 7,726,070*l.*, and the imports being 6,143,783*l.*; leaving an excess of exports to the amount of 1,618,287*l.*

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

A Brussels journal of Thursday states that M. Felix Pysat has been arrested at Aix-la-Chapelle.

The *Austrian Gazette* undertakes to confirm the statement of the *Ost Deutsche Post*, that the French Government has sent to that of Austria a note, demanding in peremptory terms the withdrawal of its troops from the Danubian Principalities.

M. Felice Orsini's work, "Austrian Dungeons in Italy," has been strictly prohibited by the Austrian police; but there is reason to believe that many copies of a translation of the book are in circulation in Italy.

From Seinde comes news of an important invention by the well-known Colonel Jacob, of the Seinde Horse—"a rifle shell of a conical or conospherical form." At twelve hundred yards this shell, fired from a rifle, exploded an ammunition-wagon packed in every respect like a field battery.

Accounts from Rome in the *Augsburg Gazette* say: "Three Catholic priests have arrived here from Wurtemberg with the view of negotiating a concordat between that country and the Holy See. The Pope has convened a congregation, when the project will be communicated to the latter by the priests in person."

In three months, no fewer than 150,000 "dead letters" from foreign countries have accumulated in the post-offices of the United States: this arises mainly from the constant movement of new immigrants, whose whereabouts are unknown.

The brig *Araby* of Sunderland was lost on the French coast, near Sables, during the recent gales. The master, mate, and two lads were drowned. Four of the crew were driven ashore on a piece of wreck, during the night, almost naked, and exposed to heavy rain; but they could not move to obtain succour till the morning.

The Pasha of Egypt has made a contract with a Parisian company to light Alexandria with gas. Of late years, Alexandria has made great strides in improvement. The "sound of the Church-going bell"

is now heard from three Christian temples. There are new streets of handsome houses. A railway runs to Cairo.

Advices from Constantinople, of the 9th inst., state that Sefer Pasha has gained two victories over the Russians in Circassia, and has taken from them about 800 prisoners and twenty-one guns.

On Sunday, the 12th October, at precisely eleven minutes before two A.M., the Islands of Malta and Gozo were visited by shocks of an earthquake, so violent in their nature and so long in their duration that the oldest inhabitants do not remember ever to have experienced anything so severe. The alarm occasioned was general throughout town and country. Men, women, and children, of all classes, suddenly aroused from their slumbers, issued from every house, some in their night-dresses, others enveloped in a sheet or blanket, and others in the first articles of apparel they could hurriedly catch up, and, rushing into the streets, made the best of their way to the squares, the outer walls, and other open spaces, which soon became full of people who had quitted their dwellings fearing to be included in the general destruction.

If any proof were wanting of the necessity for bringing to bear upon the Polynesians all the civilising influences that are within our reach, I may mention the recent melancholy intelligence that two missionaries and their wives have recently been murdered and eaten by the savage islanders of one of the New Hebrides.—*Melbourne Correspondent of the Times.*

The Paris correspondent of *Le Nord* writes that Switzerland has formally refused the advice given her by France and Austria to set at liberty the royalist prisoners at Neufchatel. At Paris, says the same correspondent, it is believed that the King of Prussia, who has obtained of Wurtemberg and Baden liberty to march troops across those territories, will advance them to the frontiers of Neufchatel, and in concert with other German States, establish a customs blockade. France and England do not oppose this measure, which, for the present, is the only one that will be adopted.

The Board of Health at Funchal have officially certified the entire cessation of the terrible epidemic which has recently ravaged the island of Madeira.

The Emperor Alexander II. has conferred the order of St. Alexander Newsky on Baron Alexander Humboldt.

The Roman ecclesiastics have thought it best to postpone indefinitely the subject of forming diplomatic relations with Turkey, fearing that the Church might be "mixed up in the conflict of the various interests which will be in existence at Constantinople."

Intelligence from Constantinople of the 9th, states that the negotiations opened for the nomination of Redschid Pasha to the place of Grand Vizier had failed.

Advices from St. Petersburg give full particulars of the Russian scheme for establishing steam lines in the Black Sea and elsewhere. Its title is to be "The Russian Steamboat Trading Company." The numerous lines will be opened by degrees, but the whole must be in regular operation within five years.

NEW PHASES OF THE PRESIDENTIAL STRUGGLE.

Judging from the latest correspondence from the United States, there is reason to fear that the tide is turning against the Free-soil party. The *Daily News* New York correspondent, writing on the 7th inst., says:—

Those who know Colonel Fremont best have no doubt that he would carry out the spirit of the founders of the Republic; but serious alarm has been excited, and as a doubt, to use the mildest expression, has been cast over the sincerity of his professed Protestantism, it has almost universally damped the ardour of his campaigners, and begun to diminish the brilliancy of his hopes. From the beginning he has been steadily losing, to all appearances, his chances in the campaign. There was little hope of Mr. Buchanan, in the beginning; and that hope is now, in public opinion, nearly extinct. Mr. Fillmore had been nominated in February, several months before any other candidate came into the field. For a long time there seemed to be no probability—hardly a possibility—of success. But just in proportion as Colonel Fremont has been losing, Mr. Fillmore has been gaining; and it is now quite a common impression among his own friends and the friends of Mr. Buchanan, that he will carry the great State of New York. If this is found to transpire, Fremont's election is an impossibility, unless he shall gain it by having the whole issue referred by the constitution to the House of Representatives. And there, unless the most extraordinary changes in the well-known political opinions of every member of that body shall take place, his election cannot possibly be secured.

There is another circumstance that should not be overlooked in making up the materials of an estimate of the probable result in this most exciting canvass. The outrages that had been perpetrated in Kansas, consequent upon the abolition of the Missouri compromise, rendered the election of the democratic candidate—who had to shoulder the responsibility of all these outrages—a matter of serious doubt. The best part of the democratic party, just in proportion as they saw the hopes of their party fall away, began, and without much reluctance, to lean to the side of Mr. Fillmore. Hence it comes that greater doubt than ever is thrown over the election of Colonel Fremont. It is hazardous business for correspondents of leading journals to utter prophecies, and I have not been in the habit of doing it myself; but your readers must not be surprised if, with all the enthusiasm that has been manifested in favour of Colonel Fremont, he should be finally disappointed. If the vote were to take place to-day, it would be almost safe to predict his success. But precisely four weeks must elapse before the day of election. Beyond all question the tide has been turning from Colonel Fremont to Mr. Fillmore.

The following is from the New York correspondent of the *Times*:—

During the next week the contest will be raging under the influences described in three States—Pennsylvania, Indiana, and Ohio. In the first it is believed the Republicans will have a hard struggle, for their opponents have concentrated their strength upon it; it is considered "the Malakhoff of the siege," and, with a well drilled organisation and a full treasury, the democrats are "working like Russians" at the defence. In Philadelphia, for instance, the municipality, being democratic, has added a trifle of 20,000 voters or so to the list, by a "extra assessments," within the last ten days; it is about a third of the whole franchise—a sweeping manœuvre to begin with. The question to be decided is whether the Republicans, not having such an organisation, and without funds enough even to distribute a sufficient supply of documents for the information of the voters, have a force sufficient to meet such a blow. If they have, it must be among the large mass of the population, which in ordinary elections lets things take their course, seldom giving themselves the trouble of voting all; but this is an extraordinary election, in which the usual bases of prediction fail; the sudden creation of such a number of votes is construed into an indication of alarm. In Ohio and Indiana a Republican majority is said to be secure. Some time ago there were intimations heard that it would be impossible to form a Federal Executive under the Presidency of Fremont, as the Southern men would indignantly refuse to take any State offices, and would not submit to or acknowledge the legality of any appointment of local Federal officers from the North. But Colonel Fremont, it is understood, has already received piles of applications from the South for appointments in case of his success, and would be able to fill all these posts were they double the number. When the South finds it will not after all be excluded from its share of places in the commonwealth, its present rage will in all probability abate. The private applications to the candidate so furiously denounced in public are a favourable symptom. The decisive day in Pennsylvania is to be Tuesday, the 14th inst. It is very possible that in the ensuing week and on the day of election there may be some cases of collision between the parties, as there are rumours of attempts to be made by the Democrats to "stuff" the ballot-boxes in Philadelphia and Baltimore.

Another election is now being held, but as it is in a territory, not a State, it counts for nothing in the presidential contest. The polls for the choice of members of the new Legislature in Kansas were opened on the 6th by a proclamation from Governor Geary; one delegate to the Federal Congress has also to be chosen. A delegate has only a seat in the national Legislature at Washington, but does not vote as a representative, and can have no influence therefore, even if a nice balance of parties carries the election of President into the Federal Legislature as the last resort provided by the constitution in case of such a difficulty. In the present state of Kansas there is no doubt how the election there will turn. The Free-state settlers, of whom many have been expelled, and all placed under a kind of ban, as rebels not acknowledging the validity of the territorial laws, will have but a slender chance. United States' troops may be stationed at the points at which disturbances may be expected, and "any interference with the legitimate exercise of the suffrage will be severely punished." A proclamation to the same effect in Philadelphia next week might not be superfluous.

Virginia is just now the hotbed of American politics. The Democratic party there take the ground of disunion if Fremont is elected. In our last number we gave some extracts from a speech of the Governor of the State made in Richmond, in reply to a remarkable speech from Mr. John M. Botts. Since then another nullification ex-Governor of that State (Floyd) has spoken from the steps of the Merchant Exchange to some thousands of the democracy of New York, in which he said that if the principles adopted by Fremont were to be triumphant, it would lead to the destruction of the Union. He avowed his readiness to give his vote in the Electoral College for Fillmore, if the earth should open and swallow him up for it, if by doing so he could defeat the Republican candidate. Virginia, he says, will back him, too, in this determination.

The *New York Daily Times* alludes to the strange rumours which have been in circulation, that there is a serious intention among the democrats of dropping Buchanan, and uniting all the anti-republican forces on Fillmore.

Perhaps the most remarkable effusion which the electoral campaign has produced, is the speech of Mr. John Minor Botts, delivered in the slave state of Virginia. It shows that the South does not run all one way, and that there are men among the slaveholders who would not regard the election of Fremont with disfavour. Speaking of the repeal of the Missouri compromise this slaveholder says:—

I was saying that I was opposed to every man who voted to repeal these compromise measures. I go further now than I have ever gone before, and say that those men who did vote for it—I don't speak of the masses of the people who have been misled by the politicians, but I speak of the politicians who committed this act—I say that these men have betrayed a degree of stupidity or ignorance, or want of intelligence, that utterly disqualifies them, in my opinion, from representing any portion of this country, in any capacity whatever, more especially if they are southern men.

I say that no man in the south, who aided in the disturbance of that compromise shall ever receive my support for anything on the face of the earth in a public point of view; and I say more than that: When the southern people come to consider this question they will find that this is no question that they can afford to have put in a box and hid away in the closet. It is a question that is obliged to speak for itself, and address itself to the whole country, either by signs or looks, and all are obliged to understand it.

Of this slavery question, which is agitating the country, he speaks still more distinctly. No northern republican ever used more explicit language than the following:—

Now, gentlemen, I want to tell you something about this question of slavery, and what I think about it. And, first of all, I want to tell you what is my own position upon it; and for that purpose I had better, as it has appeared already in print, and that there may be no misrepresentation upon it, read what I have already

said. These gentlemen have seen it, and I want them to see it again: My position on the question of slavery is this, and so far from wishing to conceal it, I desire it should be known to all. Muzzles were made for dogs, and not for men, and no press and no party can put a muzzle on my mouth so long as I value my freedom. I make bold, then, to proclaim that I am no slavery propagandist. I will resort to all proper remedies to protect and defend slavery where it exists, but I will neither assist in, nor encourage any attempt to force it upon a reluctant people anywhere, and still less will I justify the use of the military power of the country to establish it in any of the territories. If it finds its way there by legitimate means it is all well; but never by force, through any instrumentality of mine. I am myself a slaveholder, and all the property my children have in the world is slave property, inherited from their mother; and he who undertakes to connect my name or my opinions with abolitionism is either a knave or a fool, and sometimes both. And this is the only answer I have to make to them. I have not connected myself with any sectional party or sectional question; and, so help me God, I never will. That is the only answer I have to make you upon the position I occupy on the slavery question. (Cheers.) Why, gentlemen, there never was so arrant and so impudent an humbug—that was my expression—I will use it again—there never was so arrant and so impudent an humbug attempted to be practised upon the credulity of humanity as this question of slavery. Why, gentlemen, slavery is in no more danger than the coat I have on my back is of being taken away—not half as much, because they talked about lynching me, I believe, and yet I am not afraid of anybody taking my coat off; nor am I afraid that any man in this State will dare lay the weight of his finger upon my coat. What will you expect the north to do? They will resist the extension of slave territory, and they will resist the admission of Slave States. As Mr. Seward truly said, the day of compromise has passed away. Aye, and it has passed away by the judgment and decision of the Democratic party, who are alone responsible. (Cheers.) Well, now, how are they going to disturb slavery as it exists in the States? Are they going to send an army down here to do so? I don't understand by what process they mean to do it. I will tell you where the danger is. In your runaway slaves—an evil which has been greatly aggravated by the additional facilities of travel afforded by the railroads, and the greater intelligence which the slaves acquire by increased intercourse through the same medium. Your remedy is to prevent them as best you can, and to punish an abductor wherever you can find him. There is another danger, and that is, by keeping the democratic party in power. (Cheers.) Now, I will show you that if you expect that Fillmore or Buchanan will either help you to the extension of slave territory, or the admission of slave states, you are mistaken. I say that all men at the north are opposed in the abstract and upon principle to the extension of slavery. They will not disturb it where it exists, but they are not going to help you for the extension of slave territory. And why? Because it helps to increase your political power against them. Why do you want an increase of slave territory? Why do you want eighteen, nineteen, or twenty slave states instead of fifteen? Why, it is not because you have not got land enough to occupy all the slave labour at your command. It is not that. It is not because your limits are circumscribed; it is because you want to increase the political power of the south, to give her additional power in the Senate of the United States. For the same reason that you want it the north do not want you to extend it. It does not increase the number of slaves, but increases the political power, and for that reason the north is opposed to it. Well, now, if you expect, on the other hand, that Fremont, the Black Republican candidate, is going to disturb the institution of slavery you are mistaken. That either he or his party will do so I very much doubt. Do not mistake this for an abolition sentiment. I mean to say that, power being the object of the party, I doubt very much if they would not behave themselves in power better than out of it.

Mr. Botts's son and the son of the editor of the *Richmond Enquirer* had left Richmond to fight a duel on account of the quarrel of their fathers.

EXPLORATION OF CENTRAL AFRICA.

It is with great pleasure that we can announce the safe arrival at the Mauritius, on the 13th of August last, of that most celebrated of African explorers, Dr. David Livingston, in Her Majesty's ship *Erpic*. This traveller, whose exploits have, from time to time, appeared in our columns, has at length succeeded in traversing Africa from ocean to ocean, having, besides the discovery in 1849 of Lake Ngami (in company with Messrs. Oswell and Murray), and other journeys since in various directions, actually penetrated from the Cape north and west to Angola, whence he returned as far as Seshiké, and thence finally eastwards to Teté and Quilimane on the east coast. These great achievements must be the more respected when we consider that they have been performed without the least expense to the public and with only the limited means at the disposal of a humble missionary. Full particulars of this latest and most hazardous of his journeys may now be daily expected. Now that the Count D'Escayrao de Lanture, with the great Egyptian expedition, is, from Cairo, about steaming up the Nile, and Captain Burton has departed under the auspices of the Royal Geographical Society on his exploration to Zanzibar, it is most earnestly to be hoped that Dr. Vogel, who, with his attendant, Corporal Maguire, has so long perambulated the comparatively known countries to the west of Lake Chad, may at length direct his steps to the hitherto unexplored lands between that lake and the Indian Ocean. As far back as 1854 he wrote to Germany to the effect that he only awaited the receipt of 200*l.* more from the British Government in order to proceed at once to Wadai and thence to the Indian Ocean. This sum must have long since been received, and the worthy doctor and his companion may possibly be at present en route for the sources of the Nile. Staff Surgeon Dr. Daniel, F.R.G.S., well known for his researches in Western Africa, has just arrived from Sierra Leone.

POLITICAL GOSSIP.

It is believed in the best informed political circles that Viscount Palmerston is availing himself of the leisure afforded by the recess to mature and perfect a scheme of representative reform. The Premier may not go so far as Lord John Russell, who in his Reform Bill of 1852 proposed to reduce the borough franchise from a rating of 10*l.* to 5*l.* and to abolish the property qualification; but Lord Palmerston's Government will, it is hoped, introduce early in the next session a Reform Bill which will satisfy the just expectations of the country, and be supported by the united and energetic action of the Liberal party. If the bill should be thrown out, Lord Palmerston can then appeal to the country, and the political life of the nation, which has somewhat languished of late through the war and other causes, will again be aroused by the appeals which will then be generally made to the friends of progress and the opponents of legislative improvement and reform.—*Manchester Guardian*.

The same authority remarks that some Ministerial modification is likely to take place before many weeks as regards the minor members of the Government. The newly-created office of Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education will soon have to be filled up. For the Ministry of Education, Mr. Frederick Peel is designated by some of the official people; but others suppose that Mr. W. Cowper, now President of the Board of Health, will be selected for that office, and that either Mr. Peel or Mr. Monseil will go to the Board of Health. Some important modification of the War Department may be looked for, resulting very probably in the abolition of the office of Clerk of the Ordnance, now held by Mr. Monseil, and the establishment of Sir Benjamin Hawes as permanent Under-Secretary of War. He has been for about six years Deputy-Secretary at War. Who Mr. Peel's successor is to be is uncertain; but Mr. Brand, now one of the Lords of the Treasury, is not unlikely to be the man.

CRIMINAL REFORMATION.

A very crowded and important meeting was held on Friday evening, at the Town Hall, Birmingham, to consider the best means of reforming crime by the employment of discharged prisoners. There were present—Lord Calthorpe, Chairman; Lord Lyttelton, Lord Ingestre, Sir J. Pakington, Sir Stafford Northcote, the Recorder of London, the Recorder of Birmingham, Mr. Adderley, M.P., Mr. Wright, the prison philanthropist, the Hon. A. Calthorpe, the High Sheriff of Warwickshire, Alderman Sturge Kennedy, stipendiary magistrates, and others interested in the repression of crime. Lord Stanley was absent from illness. About 3,000 persons were present. The honorary secretary (Mr. Burt) stated that the object of the society was to find employment for meritorious discharged prisoners, and to find security to employers against robberies which might be feared would be committed by persons to whom they thus benevolently gave employment. Mr. Hill, Q.C., moved, and Lord Lyttelton seconded, a resolution to the effect that the plans and operations of the Birmingham Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society be approved by the meeting. The Recorder of London said that the plan of the association was not only prudent, but modest. They did not pretend to deal with the hardened thief or the brutal ruffian, but with those unfortunate individuals who, yielding to temptation, fell easily into the commission of crime, and who, by timely aid, might be restored to society. Sir J. Pakington, Sir S. Northcote, Mr. Wright, of Manchester, &c., addressed the meeting. Strong resolutions were passed pledging the meeting to endeavour to deal with the difficulty of disposing of adult criminals, and the other greater and far more hopeful object, the prevention of crime by elevating the working classes, and the establishment of a sound, wholesome, and liberal system of education. The speakers were enthusiastically applauded, especially Sir John Pakington.

Postscript.

Wednesday, Oct. 22.

THE SURREY GARDENS ACCIDENT.

We regret to state that the police authorities yesterday received information of several other cases of persons being seriously, if not fatally injured. A lady, the wife of a City tradesman, residing in Fenchurch-street, was carried out of the dense crowd by some friends who had accompanied her to the gardens, and was placed by them in a cab. She was then insensible, and upon arriving at home, medical aid was obtained, but her injuries were so extensive that she expired yesterday morning. James Clare, whose name has not until now transpired as a sufferer, lies at 17, Stamford-street, Blackfriars, with his ribs broken on both sides and also a broken collar bone. Superintendent Lund has given to the *Daily News* the particulars of another very serious case. A lady residing in the Dover-road, had been in conversation with Mrs. Lund, during the evening, and when the rush was made she was carried away with it, but Mrs. Lund maintained her position. The next that was seen of this poor woman, was her lying on the floor, bleeding most profusely from the face. She was raised, and carried into Mr. Tyler's private room, where it was found that, in addition to other injuries, the right cheek had been cut right through, the unfortunate individual having had her head thrust against the broken glass in one of the windows. Yesterday she was in a very

precarious condition, the wound being of a fearful character. Another case reported to the police is rather singular. Mrs. Kelly, a nurse at Guy's Hospital, was seriously injured in the confusion. No one present could identify her, but when she was conveyed with the other sufferers, to Guy's Hospital, she was soon recognised as a nurse connected with that institution. Up to last evening, the police, who had been energetic in their inquiries, had been unable to ascertain anything respecting the unfortunate boy who was carried out dead by his father. His name and address, or those of his parents or friends, remains a mystery.

MEETING IN MR. SPURGEON'S CHAPEL.

At a meeting, held at the chapel in Park-street, on Monday night, Mr. Moore, a deacon, made the following statement with reference to the accident:—

With regard to the origin of the alarm last night, there is no doubt that it originated from wicked, designing men. If ever Satan was permitted to take human appearance and walk the earth, it was on last night. Oh, that dreadful scene! You are anxious to hear about our poor pastor—he is very bad. Very bad, I say, not from any injuries or bruises he has received, but from the extreme tension on his nerves, and his great anxiety. So bad is he that we were fearful for his mind this morning. Under these circumstances, only one thing could be done, that is, to send him into the country away from the scene. As we knew that a great number of persons would call at his house during the day, we sent him early this morning; so that none of his engagements can be entered into this week. From information I have just received, I am enabled to tell you that to-night he is a little better, but still very prostrate. Mr. Olney (another deacon) is ill in bed. Let us be more merciful to our enemies of last night than they were to us. That wicked wretch—that man whom we are justified in calling a miscreant—who first gave the dreadful signal by which so much life was lost—(here Mr. Moore, with many of his audience, burst into tears)—let us even pray for him. Who knows but that he may one day stand in this room and own his great crime, and seek for repentance?

The chapel was not nearly so full as it usually is on these occasions. A few minutes before the conclusion of the meeting, Mr. Moore assured the audience that he (Mr. Moore) was the first who proposed to Mr. Spurgeon to preach in the Surrey Music Hall—against that gentleman's wishes from the first. The money collected on Sunday night was intended to be devoted to the families of the sufferers, and a further collection was made after the service on Monday evening. It was announced that Mr. Spurgeon, as soon as he was sufficiently recovered, would preach a sermon with the same charitable object, and every means are to be taken to alleviate the distress of the surviving relatives of sufferers.

Handbills have been circulated announcing that Mr. Spurgeon will preach next Friday at the chapel of the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel.

THE INQUEST.

Yesterday afternoon an inquest, touching the deaths of the unfortunate persons who lost their lives by the untoward occurrence at the Surrey Gardens, was commenced before Mr. Carter, the coroner for East Surrey. The jury went to view the bodies and the hall. Mr. Wood, the secretary to Mr. Spurgeon's chapel in Park-street, and Mr. Low, of the firm of Low and Powtress, of Graceschurch-street, one of the deacons, were in attendance to watch the proceedings and to give any information that might be required. John Heard, a tanner of Bermondsey, in testifying to the death of his brother Samuel, said:—

Ten minutes or a quarter of an hour after the commencement of the service I heard a dreadful confusion, and on inquiring what was the cause, some one about me said "a supposed fire." We all made a rush to get to the staircase. I lost sight of my brother, and never saw him alive after I first heard the confusion. He had been previously standing close to me. I saw no appearance of fire, and I do not know in what part of the building the alarm first took place. I fell down stairs—not over them. The pressure was very great, and a number of people fell upon me. A policeman pulled me out afterwards and pulled off my boot in doing so. We were almost close to the door when the alarm was raised. It was the pressure from behind that forced me down. The gallery was very full where we were, but there was room to pass between us and the wall.

The most important evidence given was by Louisa Johnson, sister of one of the deceased, a girl of fifteen. She said:—

We went into the hall, into the first gallery. We stood close to the door at the top of the stairs. After we had been there three-quarters of an hour, my sister said, "The house is falling," and we ran down the stairs. I had not seen or heard anything to lead to such an impression. I fell, and a number of people fell upon me. I and my sister were the first that got into the staircase. I took hold of the banisters and fell, the staircase being so narrow. I then lost my recollection. I was afterwards raised up and taken out. I did not hear any alarm given besides what my sister said. As soon as she told me the place was falling I rushed out. She did not speak loudly, but she might have been heard by a few people around us. When we ran out she was behind me, and when I fell she fell upon me. I do not believe my sister had any motive in calling out that the place was falling.

A jurymen: As you rushed out of the door did you meet any persons coming down the other stairs?

Witness: No, I did not. The staircase was free. As soon as I heard what my sister said I ran out screaming. Other persons followed. I fell and they fell upon me. I took hold of the banister rail to slip down.

Emma Bigwood said:—

We were not more than two yards from the door. Had been there about a quarter of an hour when I heard a rush, and thought the galleries were falling. I was very much alarmed, and screamed. A great number of other persons also screamed. They were about me. Mrs. Skipper took me by the hand and led me to the staircase.

When I got on the staircase, I heard the cry of fire and the smashing of glass.

In reply to a question, Mr. Woods said the collecting boxes were handed round by some persons, but not by the authority of any person belonging to the chapel. There was only about 8*l.* collected, and that would be distributed among the surviving sufferers. A person said he was one of the collectors, and held a collecting-box at one of the doors, but he was not aware at the time that any one had been killed.

The inquest was then adjourned until Friday morning.

Preceding the report of the inquest in the *Times* are the following remarks:—

The evidence taken yesterday from eye-witnesses of the calamitous accident in the Music Hall at the Surrey-gardens on Sunday night, of which, so far as it has gone, a report is given below, proves in the clearest manner the way in which the unhappy persons who were killed came by their death. From that and from additional observations and inquiries made yesterday on the spot, it is now beyond all question that death in every case ensued upon the circular stone staircase, leading from the first gallery to the ground-floor, in the north-western tower of the building. It is also an indisputable fact that every one of the persons killed sat or stood during the service until the alarm was given in that first gallery; and—what is perhaps more remarkable than all else—the very individuals who came by this violent end were precisely those nearest the place of exit, and who were the first to run for safety at the earliest manifestation of the panic. The man Samuel Heard, the two young women named Johnson, Harriet Barlow, Mrs. Skipper, and probably Harriet Mathew also, all stood immediately within the doorway leading on to the fatal staircase, and were therefore, one would have thought, in the best possible position for effecting a safe retreat. They were likewise the first to run. But, as the event unhappily proved, it was far otherwise. They were all trodden to death on the stairs, even the strong man, Samuel Heard, of all men the most likely to be able to hold his own in a crowd.

It is extremely probable that Heard, from his position near the door, as described by his relatives who accompanied him, was the first to make for the door when the alarm was sounded, that in his precipitation he made a false step as he began the descent, was hurled headlong down the stairs, could not recover his feet again, and that the women, Johnson, Barlow, and Skipper, who would from their position be immediately following him, fell over him as he lay, and were with him trampled to death by the crowd from behind. Those who remained quietly in the building until the consternation had passed away, as might have been expected, fared best.

"W. S.," a correspondent of the *Times* who was in the midst of the *make*, praises Mr. Spurgeon's bearing. "I think," he says, "Mr. Spurgeon acted for the best by attempting to preach, as there can be no doubt that it gave confidence to many until a sufficient number were out to enable the others to disperse more quietly."

Mr. Spurgeon was summoned to attend the inquest held last night, but was unable to leave Norwood, where he has been staying since Sunday, and a medical certificate to that effect was sent to the coroner. It appears that the calamity which occurred was not lessened by some instructions given by Mr. Spurgeon himself, apparently from the best motives. In order that the people who attended on Sunday evening might not be induced to roam about the gardens, and that they might confine themselves to the legitimate purposes for which the gardens were on that evening specially opened, he ordered that all the entrances on the side of the building opposite the principal door should be closed, a circumstance which prevented the people from obtaining egress from that side of the hall and induced a general rush to the principal door, which was soon blocked up by those who were making such desperate efforts to escape.

The *Journal de Constantinople* of the 9th confirms the news of the victory gained by the Circassians near the Laba. The Russians advanced to enforce the execution of the treaty whereby they were to take possession of the country, when Sefer Pasha opposed them with 35,000 men, and after three hours' fighting, routed them, as already stated. Another affair has since taken place near the Kuban, where the Russians lost five pieces of artillery.

The *Press of Orient* announces positively the speedy return to the Bosphorus of a French squadron. Contracts have been entered into for supplying them with provisions.

The Ditcher v. Denison case came on yesterday, at Bath, before the Archbishop of Canterbury and a very large and interested assembly. Before proceeding to the act of deprivation, the Archbishop listened to arguments of Dr. Phillimore against it; and, on the other hand, of arguments in its favour, urged by Dr. Bayford. The Court will again sit to-day, and the final decision of the Archbishop will be given. Meanwhile, the excitement among clerical circles is intense.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

The supply of English wheat on sale in to-day's market was very moderate, and in poor condition. For all kinds we had a dull inquiry, and Monday's prices were with difficulty supported. The imports of foreign wheat continue liberal. That grain changed hands wholly in retail quantities, at unaltered quotations. The demand for floating cargoes was less active. Barley sold slowly, and grinding parcels were lower to purchase. The malt trade ruled steady, on former terms. We had a dull inquiry for oats, and damp parcels were rather easier. Beans, peas, and flour were unaltered in value.

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The NONCONFORMIST is registered for transmission abroad.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1856.

SUMMARY.

THE dreadful tragedy at the Surrey Gardens on Sunday night for the moment takes precedence of all the events of the week. Mr. Spurgeon, the celebrated popular preacher, was announced to preach on that occasion in the great Music Hall. A multitude, estimated at more than 12,000 persons, assembled to hear him, besides the crowds outside the building. Within a short period of the commencement of the service, an alarm of fire was raised, and a panic seized the vast assembly, which no efforts on the part of Mr. Spurgeon and his friends could allay. In the frantic attempt to escape, people fell over one another, trampled on one another—rushing on the fate from which they fled. On the ground floor the pressure was greatest, but the means of egress most accessible. It was in the galleries, or rather on the staircases leading from them, that the consequences were the most fatal and appalling. The scene on the first staircase can only be likened to the horrors of a besieged fortress; and it is remarkable that the first to run were the first killed. While the horrible tragedy was enacting, the minister, with great presence of mind, kept his stand, praying and preaching, in order to allay a panic he could not quell. We see no reason whatever for the severe and hasty censures that have been cast upon Mr. Spurgeon. In this dreadful scene of pressure and suffocation, at least eight persons were killed, or have since died of the injuries sustained. The number of sufferers will, perhaps, never be known. Yesterday, a coroner's inquest on the bodies of the deceased was commenced, but as yet there is no clue to the origin of the calamity—though there is some reason to fear that the alarm was wilfully raised. Those who preserved their presence of mind and remained behind escaped with little or no injury; while the results of the panic were most fatal in the gallery, where the crowd made for one door, though there were at least three others equally convenient. We await with great interest the issue of this melancholy inquiry, and trust that the fearful disaster will be a warning to the proprietors of public buildings, such as Exeter Hall, to provide adequate means of egress. It will also serve to remind popular orators and their friends, that the drawing together of vast masses of people indoors involves the responsibility of providing, as far as possible, for the maintenance of order, the prevention of panic, and facilities for escape in case of accident.

The season of stagnation in political matters seems to be passing away. The *Quarterly Review*, and Mr. Laing, M.P., have done something to recall public attention to questions of national interest. The member for Wick is a Radical of the Manchester school; though not unfavourable to the present Administration. "I for one," he says, in a letter to his constituents, "feel that we must make great allowances for the difficulties of men charged with the Government of a free country where so many opinions prevail, and that as long as we are satisfied with the general policy and great results of an Administration, it is our duty to maintain them in office, and to avoid those frequent changes which are the scandal of constitutional Governments." Mr. Laing does not "pretend to have any particular apprehension of a Government headed by Lord Derby or Mr. Gladstone; but he deprecates change without any sufficient motive." As for our domestic policy, Mr. Laing is almost more Conservative than Lord Derby. He considers that "so much has been done that little remains

to do." On the subject of education, his views are more satisfactory: "To facilitate and encourage voluntary effort and to aid the diffusion of knowledge indirectly by examinations for Government appointments and by the repeal of the paper duty, is now recognised by most thinking men to be the only proper, and by all to be the only possible function of the Legislature as regards education." Sooner or later, in Mr. Laing's view, the agitation against the Maynooth Grant will bring up the Irish and possibly the Scotch Church questions as practical questions. Mr. Laing is favourable to a moderate Reform Bill; such a measure, we imagine, as that faintly shadowed forth by report as lying in the portfolio of the Prime Minister at the present time. Perhaps it is the expectation of such a scheme being proposed during the next session that induces the *Press* to deprecate any Conservative programme beyond that of "practical reform," and to make resistance to change its cardinal feature of policy. But while the writers of this "amateur organ" are "groping about in the fog for another party," the more practical *Quarterly Review* actually raises the "No Popery" cry, in consequence of the increase of perverts and the influence exercised over them in their spiritual directors. "We do not speak lightly or at random," says the *Quarterly*, "when we say that this system is alive and active in England at this moment; a system which we can only compare in its operation on the mind to a contract of sale or slavery for the body, which our laws refuse to recognise." The Conservative reviewer, going beyond Mr. Spooner's anti-Maynooth movement, hints at the necessity of modifying the Roman Catholic Emancipation Act! No wonder that a party which can produce nothing more definite than such nostrums should be derided by the *Times*. At present, according to our caustic contemporary, the creed of the "Country party" is simply a faith in war cries. "It seems to be an opinion that there are certain words or spells which, however hollow, delusive, treacherous, and villainous, however certain to be speedily detected and to bring their coiners to justice, have the power of collecting and banding together, say, half a million of voters and three hundred M.P.s." The *Times* does not despair of good leaders for the good cause, but begs "most respectfully to decline the use of war cries, spells, 'open sesames,' and all sorts of political incantations."

At last we have authentic information as to the joint policy of the Western Cabinets in the Neapolitan question. The views of the British Government were semi-officially announced last week by the *Times*. This week the *Moniteur* has given authoritative expression to the views of both Governments. From that official announcement we learn that the King of Naples, having resolved "to take no heed of the solicitude of France and of England for the general interests of Europe," diplomatic relations will be broken off with his Cabinet; but the act is declared to be one neither of "intervention" nor "hostility." France and England have "assembled a combined squadron; but they have refrained from sending their ships to the waters of Naples, to avoid giving rise to erroneous interpretations. This simple measure of eventual protection, which in no manner partakes of a menace, cannot either be considered as a support or encouragement offered to those who endeavour to upset the throne of the King of the Two Sicilies." As explained by our own journals, the squadron is to hover about the coast of Naples, ready to protect French and English subjects in case of outbreak, and to interfere if the King should think fit to let loose the Lazzaroni on his more educated subjects. Meanwhile, it is said that the Czar has addressed an autograph letter to King Bomba, advising him to follow the good advice of the Emperor Napoleon. But there is at present no indication whatever, that the King will yield either to advice or threats.

The advent of Narvaez to power in Spain has been speedily followed by further reactionary measures. The Concordat with the Pope is to be restored in full force; the sale of ecclesiastical property suspended; and the Queen's household re-organised as before the Espartero-O'Donnell régime. And, in fine, Christina, the Queen-Mother, is to have restored to her all the property, the accumulation of many years public robbery and speculation, which had been sequestered by the Cortes, and will of course return to Madrid to direct with a firmer hand the absolutist tendencies of the Court. The late triumphant Dictator is already forgotten, and is permitted to travel abroad on foreign service. But there is reason to fear that Spain has not yet reached her lowest depth of degradation. Narvaez is plainly more an instrument than a master—too independent to work out the full intentions of the Bourbon conspirators against the freedom of Spain, and likely ere long to give place to a more subservient tool.

The Anti-slavery struggle in America is, we fear, passing through another phase, which diminishes

the chances of Fremont's selection to the presidential chair. While the issue of the Pennsylvania State elections remain as yet doubtful, Mr. Floyd, ex-governor of Virginia, a Slave State, appears in New York, to throw the weight of his influence in the scale on behalf of Mr. Fillmore, and promises to draw after him the influence of the whole of that district. This is but a sign of the waning prospects of Mr. Buchanan, whose pro-slavery tendencies and filibustering programme, however acceptable to the South, are obnoxious to moderate northern men, far more alive to the material and commercial aspects of the struggle, than to the great principles involved. To defeat Fremont is the supreme object of the other two parties. To secure that triumph they seem willing to throw overboard either of their candidates. Mr. Fillmore is a respectable, moderate man, who has no special sympathy for slavery, is bound up with northern interests, cares little for further annexation of territory, but is firmly attached to the Union. In a word, he is just the kind of tool to carry out a compromise, and to recognise the conquest of Kansas by the slaveocracy as an accomplished fact. Once more, therefore, the zealous Anti-slavery party in the North are in danger of being betrayed by their moderate allies. If the election had taken place a month ago, we are told, Fremont would have been chosen President—now, by a change of tactics on the part of his opponents, by abandoning those extreme views which alarm northern Whigs, and the better organisation and greater resources of the Democratic party, he is likely to be defeated. But there is yet hope in the House of Representatives, which is northern in its sympathies, and one-third of which will have to be re-elected before the spring session.

THE POLITICAL CALM.

"WHEN will it be over?" earnest men are beginning to ask one another. What should be done to rouse political sentiment into some show of life? It has slept too long—may it not have sunk into that state of *coma* which is the forerunner of death? At any rate, while Liberalism sleeps, may not its ever-watchful foes steal a march upon it, and presently take it at disadvantage?

These are questions more easily asked than answered. We confess ourselves unable to reply to them satisfactorily. But we will make an observation or two on the unmistakable fact which occasions them, and hand over the more direct solution of them to time.

We remark, in the first place, that interest in political affairs is one of the habits of Englishmen. A great many of our people may be too engrossed with what they emphatically style "their business," to trouble their heads with politics. Very few of them, perhaps, commit themselves to the study of public affairs, with that intense and head-long spirit of partisanship which seems common enough in the United States of America. Still, there can be no doubt that, considered as a nation, we are anything but disinclined to the stir of political life, or the discharge of political duty. If we have become so, we have become so with marvellous suddenness. If we have not—and a moment's reflection must tell us we have not—then the present pause, so spontaneous, so general, so protracted, and so apparently immovable, can only be accounted for by some natural cause. It is no artificial result. It is not produced by temporary disgust. It is not a selfish and dishonest evasion of duty. It can be little else than the rest of men who see no pressing reason for immediate exertion. In other words, political excitement does not exist, and cannot be produced, merely because there is no desirable and worthy political fruit sufficiently ripe to tempt a laborious effort to pluck it. Much as there is in the aggregate requiring to be done, there is no one thing taken singly, either so important in itself, or, if important, so near its harvest time, as to awaken and sustain popular energy.

We go on to observe that the sleeping hours of the body politic are very far from being lost hours. It is during long seasons of calm that enlightened opinion spreads. A still atmosphere, if not too long protracted, is as essential to healthy progress as a stiff breeze or a violent storm. And especially is this the case when large principles offer themselves for consideration, discussion, and judgment. Indeed, a new truth, if it be at the same time a truth of vast practical moment, can desire nothing better than occasional intervals of what we call stagnation. It is during these periods of outward quiet, that men's prejudices grow slumberous, and allow them to look beyond the circle of their traditional ideas without fear and without disturbance. It needs very bright sunshine and very stilly days to allure old-fogyism from its snug but narrow retreat—and when it can be persuaded to stir abroad, and look strange notions in the face, it loses something of hereditary timidity, and goes back again to its nest with

the profitable conviction that some projected innovations are not nearly so fiend-like as it had accustomed itself to fancy. It is our serious belief that public opinion has made a much greater advance, noiseless and uninterrupted as it has been, during the last six months, than during the whole of the previous period since the opening of the present Parliament. Future possibilities and even proximate likelihoods of change, are now talked over without passion and without awe, the mention of which two years ago in certain quarters would have excited a perfect panic of terror and indignation.

Now, we do not by any means say that this is an advantage, for the sake of which we should be willing to neglect a single movement whereby the political apathy of the day might be naturally put an end to. But we do say, that while that seeming apathy, or, more properly, reticence, refuses to give way to every kind of coaxing and remonstrance, we see no good reason for resigning ourselves to discouragement, and we find solace in the conviction that sound and wholesome doctrines are drawing sap from the soil. And we do think that premature and spasmodic efforts, to shake the public mind out of its dulness, would realise but a scanty, hardly a remunerative, measure of success. It is the most difficult thing in the world to convince the great patient—the people—that it is ill, when it does not feel so. What we have to do just now is to take advantage of the moment of quietude to instil right notions of disease and its cure, and to place in their true light the fancies which strong men often cherish, and the quackeries which they are but too willing to use for the purpose of dispelling them. When the wind shifts to the east, and rheumatic pains give notice that something must be done—or, to drop the figure, when some external influence sweeps over the public mind, makes it uneasy, and prompts it to cast about for change, then may every true and faithful Liberal speak counsel, and urge action, with a probability of success all the greater in proportion to his previous abstinence from rough and crude expedients.

We are under no apprehension that the calm will last too long—not even supposing that it is overtaken by a general election. Nor are we very anxious to see a "popular cry" on the wing. A great deal of very deceptive and inferior stuff finds its way into Parliament under cover of a popular cry—and a great deal of ability, integrity, and thoughtful liberality is kept out of Parliament by the alarm which a popular cry awakens. The friends of progress know pretty well what they want, and can agree pretty well upon what they deem essential in a candidate. The very best thing they can do just now, is to quietly come to an understanding with the *right men* to represent them, and be prepared to take the field whenever "the sense of the country" is appealed to. There is no reason why they should be idle, merely because the political atmosphere is calm. The stillness may offer some inducement to them to do their work noiselessly, but not negligently. They may be sure that their opponents will not miss the opportunity—and we know not why it should be necessary that truth and freedom should invariably have a trumpet blown before them. In fact, there is much less faith in formulas, and much less impression produced by mere sounds, than ever there used to be—and there never was a time, in the history of this country, when more certainly than now, silent workers had a better chance of becoming successful workers. A march in the night is sometimes better strategy than a quick succession of brilliant skirmishes.

"NEITHER DO I CONDEMN THEE."

EVERY one will remember the Person by whom, and the occasion on which, the above words were uttered. The moral of them, alas! so beautiful, so beneficent, is too generally disregarded. Conventional charity in this country has hitherto been something of a *prude*, pursuing her benevolent calling pretty exclusively among the untainted of crime, and more intent upon alleviating the destitute, than upon whispering hope to the degraded, and raising the fallen. And yet, Divine example points to the latter as the nobler work—nobler, because more needful, more difficult, and more self-sacrificing. Perhaps, as we come to know ourselves better, as our recollections of temptation barely escaped become more numerous, as our consciousness of frailty grows more sensitive, and its impressions more vivid, our feelings for the erring will partake more largely of the character of compassion than of scorn. How much easier it is to turn with loathing from the impure than to attempt to resuscitate in their bosoms the self-respect which sin and shame have quenched, we all know perfectly well—and we have all of us need to be upon our guard against too conclusions which society is too ready to take for granted—the first, that no one "can touch pitch without becoming defiled"—the other, that "adult criminals cannot be reformed."

The anxiety, the ingenuity, the zeal, the self-denial, which are being brought into exercise for

drying-up the sources of crime, we take to be one of the redeeming features of the present age. Some of the methods to which they would resort in accomplishing their blessed purpose, may appear to us over hasty, and indicative rather of the impatience of zeal, than of the deliberate forecastings of wisdom. But he who cannot look upon the mistakes of others in such an enterprise without a ruffle of ill-nature, or a flush, however transient, of self-satisfaction that he was too knowing to be misled, is as shallow of understanding as he is devoid of generosity. This is a department of work in which it is better to err than to be idle. But the special charity to which we are about to call attention, is open to no theoretical objection. It is surprising, indeed, that the aim it seeks to realise has been so generally neglected, and especially by that philanthropy which grows out of religion. And we cannot help believing that it needed only to be lifted into notice to engage all the energetic support which its friends could desire for it.

On Friday last, then—to come without further preface to the immediate object of these remarks—a great meeting was held at Birmingham in support of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society. The design of this institution is partially, but only in part, set forth in its name. It seeks "to aid prisoners on their discharge from gaol, by procuring lodgings for such of them as may be selected by the committee of recommendation, furnishing temporary maintenance, in case of need, to individuals seeking employment, assisting them in obtaining work, or in returning to their homes, and subsequently exercising a friendly superintendence over them." The meeting was presided over by Lord Calthorpe, and was addressed by the Recorder of Birmingham, Mr. M. D. Hill, the Recorder of London, Mr. Stuart Wortley, Sir John Pakington, and other gentlemen less known to the public. The society, it seems, is entirely local—but its labours have been attended with a most encouraging measure of success. We are unable at this moment to refer to the report. But the following extract from Mr. Hill's speech will supply the kind of information we should have wished to find in it:—

It is probably known to many present that during the seventeen years of my recordership I have adopted a plan which I derived from the worthy and excellent magistrates at the Warwickshire sessions—namely, that when there is reason to believe that a young person at the bar is not utterly depraved; that he is there for his first, or nearly his first offence; that there are those allied to him by ties of blood or of friendship (oftentimes his employers) who would take him and give him a home and an asylum, I have practised the lesson I learnt, and delivered up such young persons to those who have offered to restore them to their families and afford them an opportunity of reformation. (Cheers.) And I must be allowed to say, and I do it with gratitude, that the benevolent persons to whom I refer, the friends who received the youth just stamped with felony, were in a majority of instances the very persons who were the sufferers by the offence of which the young criminal had been convicted. How often has it occurred to me to find the prosecutor, with tears in his eyes, beg and entreat that the young prisoner might be given up to him for a further trial; and when the Court has yielded to that entreaty there has been a burst of gratitude and thanks for being allowed to take upon himself so anxious a responsibility as that of receiving into the bosom of his family a convicted felon. I have felt, as you must be sure I should feel, that the thanks and gratitude ought to pass from me to the benefactor, and not from the benefactor to me. (Cheers.) In the course of my seventeen years' recordership many prisoners have been so dealt with. I have kept an exact register, and the individuals whose names have been entered therein have been visited for the purpose of ascertaining the fruits of the lenity shown to them. 483 persons have been so disposed of at the Birmingham sessions. A watchful eye has been kept upon the entire number, and the result has been that they have not been able to detect that more than 78 out of 483 have appeared at the bar of any court. (Cheers.)

Sir John Pakington made an equally important statement:—

Lord Lyttelton has adverted to the fact that in the county of Worcester they have had a society established for kindred purposes. From a report presented at the annual meeting of that society it appears that, since its establishment in 1840, 228 prisoners have been relieved, of whom eleven have been recommitted to prison, and there is reason to believe that the remaining 217 have reformed their habits and turned from their evil courses. It is gratifying to know for a certainty that many of that number have become useful and valuable members of society.

The right honourable baronet informed his audience that a similar association has been established in Gloucester, and, as in Worcestershire, the exertions of its promoters have been followed by the most gratifying and successful results. In this, as in other matters, according to Sir John, "we have been lagging behind the rest of the world. The United States have done much, France has done much, Prussia has done much, and even Italy, upon whom, in our insular pride, we are accustomed to look down in contempt, has set us an example which we are at least willing to follow."

The hopeless condition of the recent convict as he comes forth from the gaol in which he has expiated, it may be, his first breach of the laws of society, has been touchingly described by

many pens. We will not put our imagination to the gloomy task. Every reader may fancy quite enough to stir up within him a painful interest. A lost character—a blank or hostile world—the close proximity of actual want—not a friend, save such as traffic in human crime—the barest possible chance of redemption, mixed up with, and all but lost amongst, cruel temptations—a solitary man stepping forth afresh upon the world's busy stage, with nothing to sustain him but his own resolution to reform—a moral leper, from whom every one turns aside in haste, and against whom all the avenues of life are closed—who can affect to wonder that the poor tainted victim of his own sin should speedily succumb beneath the tremendous odds against him? Surely, the instincts of Christian compassion will suggest that here, if anywhere, there is a case in which one delegate, if only one, from the honest portion of society, to recognise the outcast, to drop a tear over his misery, to show an interest in his well-doing, to smile approval of his resolution, and to lend a helping hand in his fearful crisis, cannot but improve the chances of that man's ultimate recovery to virtue. 'Tis a blessed work in such a moment to kindle the spark of hope. 'Tis a mighty assistance to gain for resolution a brief time to breathe, and strengthen itself for the hard contest just at hand. And if this were all that could be done, it were well worth the doing.

But the statements put forward at the Birmingham meeting show that earnest philanthropy may succeed in achieving more. It is easy enough for journalists to pronounce it impossible to find employment for these hapless Pariahs, and to imagine instances in which it behoves prudence to rein back the strong impulse of compassion. But experience is a better counsellor than imagination, and a loving heart will often find a way which a strong head would miss. Fathers of large families moving in spheres of wealth and respectability—masters of large factories employing hundreds of workpeople—may find it too dangerous to be practicable to introduce into their establishments one who has been an inmate of a prison, however penitent he may be. But society is not wholly made up of such materials. There are employers of labour on a small scale whose position scarcely requires that they should be so fastidious—who can serve at once a fallen brother and themselves without much risk—and many of whom, according to the testimony of the Recorder of Birmingham, are even thankful to indulge the luxury of rescuing a wretched convict from ruin. Organised effort to find out such chances, and to put the miserable gaol bird, on the completion of his first captivity, into the way of profiting by them, cannot be thrown away. It has been followed by success—it may still count upon being so followed. We wish, therefore, that a Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society were established in every county. We would rejoice to see our Churches taking a prominent part in this good work. All may work more or less effectively—or, at any rate, may refrain from throwing cold water upon the warmer hearts engaged in the blessed enterprise. And all who are actively promoting this movement will, we trust, enjoy, as they will surely deserve, "The blessings of them that were out of the way, and ready to perish." If not, they will have the higher satisfaction of having acted in the spirit of Him who said to a convicted and infamous woman, "Neither do I condemn thee—go, and sin no more."

Table-Talk.

The honourablest part of talk is to give the occasion; and then to moderate again and pass to somewhat else.—Lord Bacon.

Let bygones be bygones. Whether the Duke of Cambridge almost invited down again the Guards at Alma, or not, or whether he had good reason for doing so or not, he is showing the true mettle for a Commander-in-Chief in matters of discipline. If he goes on as he has begun, we shall have to alter the immemorial *ingenuas didicisse*, and echo Swift's captain,

A scholar, when just from his college broke loose,
Can hardly tell how to cry to a goose;
Your Novels and Blaturns and Omurs and stuff;
By George! they don't signify this pinch of snuff;
To give a young gentleman right education,
The army's the only good school in the nation!

in quite a new sense. Lord Ernest Vane Tempest has written to the *Times*, explaining how Mr. Ames misplaced the aspirate in his conversation, and how he and his brothers-in-arms and in brutal tomfoolery thought that a good reason for cutting off the gentleman's whiskers, and capsizing his sleeping apartment. The Duke thinks otherwise, and cashiers Tempest and Birt for conduct unbecoming officers and gentlemen. Honour to whom honour! To the Duke for his decision in the cause of discipline and decency; to Lord Ernest Vane Tempest, for his courage in cutting off the whiskers of a gentleman, who, he pathetically says, is six feet high, and encountering professional martyrdom

on behalf of the injured letter H. If his lordship could say of his early years,

My schoolmaster called me a dunce and a fool,
But at cuffs I was always the cock of the school;
I never could take to my books for the blood of me:—

he has now made what, if he speaks truth, Mr. Ames would call, hamples hamends by becoming the erotic defender of the haspirate in the harpy.

By the way, Mr. Macaulay quoted these lines of Swift in his speech on Indian Government in June, 1853—and that reminds us that the young King of Portugal is said to be exceedingly fond of that gentleman's History of England, and to take an interest in promoting the reading of it. This may seem a trifle, but so subtle is thought, so ramifying the influence of ideas dropped into human minds ever so casually, that it makes one think how great a work as an educator a brilliant writer like Mr. Macaulay may be doing in writing history. Always just pleasant, and never straining his readers' consciences or imaginations, he makes a smooth way, by which great ideas may some day enter from another source. What would young Portugal make of Mr. Carlyle's French Revolution?

The question whether the City Gas Works gives out an offensive and injurious odour, would seem a very simple one. Our ancestors would have made short work of it. A spade is a spade, and a bad smell is a bad smell. But the City Magnates have been "ventilating" the question at length, and some witnesses examined have had their noses pulled, in a figurative point of view, by catechists who disputed their olfactory capacities. Probably medical evidence might be taken with advantage, not only upon the grand question of Salubrious Stinks, but upon the small preliminary matter of the pathology of noses.

Whereas the Nelson Monument was left to the zeal of a man and a boy who belong to history, and it took us two years to find out that soldiers wanted a change of *chaussure* in a Crimean winter, the great public concern of improving Whitehall and Downing-street is to be huddled over in a few weeks. The time allowed for sending in plans, &c., is so preposterously small, that everyone is calling out about it. Why go over this important ground so fast? Let the Board of Works put off its suddenly-assumed seven-league boots, and take its walks abroad in this direction in the celebrated "Common Sense Trowsers," with retarding peas in its shoes, lest it should have to do painful penance too late!

The *Daily News* has raised, not for the first time, the question of amalgamating the Excise and Customs departments; not only for economy's sake, but in order that we may have better opportunities of registering and collating facts which illustrate the interaction and counteraction of import and export duties,—which latter excise duties for the most part are. The suggestion is a good one. The present scribbler thinks direct taxation the complexion to which we must come at last, and feels sure than any facility for collating facts in the machinery of revenue must help on that good time coming.

We once echoed in this column, with real pleasure, a suggestion in the *Times* that we were getting too fond of stone and stucco, and too supercilious to the highly respectable and venerable Brick. A writer in the *Athenæum* remarks, *apropos* of the new Ceramic Court in the Crystal Palace, that washableness being a desirable feature in a London exterior, ornamental tiles might be put to a pleasant use, almost entirely new to us at present. All in good time. If God made the country, and man makes the town, there is still no reason why man should make the town as ugly as possible, and by degrees he seems to be waking up to that idea.—Is not the writer of the *Athenæum* article Mr. G. W. Thornbury, author of the *Monarchs of the Main*, *Shakespeare's England*, &c. This gentleman's producing power takes our breath away. It seems but yesterday that we saw his last book, and we now see another announced, with some such title as "Art and Nature in many Lands."

Good workmen never quarrel either with their tools or their material. Modern science can do anything short of changing ultimate particles, if there be such things. There is something almost sublime in the luxuriant applications of her strength and skill. Our loving grandchildren may come to exchange billets-doux on paper made of iron. Meantime, Mr. Stones, in a happy little article in the *Journal of the Society of Arts*, passes in review all the materials which have been proposed as substitutes for rags in the paper manufacture, and concludes in favour of Straw and the Mississippi Cane-brake, as the only commercially available resources at present. In the same journal Mr. Trent, of Old Ford, calls attention to McBride's Flax-scutching machine, perfected and brought into use by Messrs. McAdam, of Belfast. The process of cleaning (scutching) flax by manual labour involves direct injury to health, and a dryness of the throat provocative of intemperate drinking. We know nothing of the machine in question, though we do take

some little interest in flax—but we gladly reproduce here any hint or comment which seems to tend towards replacing hand by machine labour; in this case not only on the general ground of economising productive power, but on that of economising life and the foundations of social well-being.—On similar grounds we echo the placarded appeal of the Early Closing Association.—Make your shop purchases before seven o'clock, P.M. Will kind readers pause over this for a few minutes, think their thoughts and make their resolves! They will not miss the time in the long run.

It may sometimes happen in this column, that without fatiguing attention, or forgetting that we are only "talking," we may lightly strike, in passing, the keynote of some rising theme of public opinion. Such a theme, open to discussion in detail, on all hands, was the entrance, in larger amount of lady-agency, into reformatory movements. The articles in the *Daily News*, &c., and some of the *Quarterlies*, are only an instalment of the promise we hinted at in referring to the labours in secret of contemporary pens. It was rather amusing to read the vigorous attack of one of our young poetesses upon one of your young poets, *apropos* of Madame de Hautefort, in the *Daily News* of the 15th Oct. But these are only premonitory murmurs!—To pass to Art. We have hinted that musical criticism must take both a higher and a wider range before it is of any real service except as a transitional thing. One of the points to which it will have to address itself is this,—that a good voice and a musical ear alone, ever so carefully trained, do not make a singer who is entitled to appear in public, where he will inevitably influence musical taste. You listen to an admired singer in a popular part. If you could forget everything but "music," technically speaking, you might like his performance. But you cannot. You feel disposed to say to him, "Sir, you have the voice of a nightingale, the science of Handel, and—the soul of a tin putty-pan. And the last clause spoils all." What good in detailed criticism of this man's singing? Why say he was "ragged," or "flat," or anything else? The fellow has nothing of the singer but what is mechanical, and is altogether a nuisance and a crying shame. Now, the time is come to insist that singers and musicians, as well as composers, shall exhibit the æsthetic qualities, without which they only demoralise the musical appetite of the listeners. Men and women hopelessly deficient in ideality,—and, mind you, no deficiency is so hopeless, in a general way,—must not be trained into mechanical perfectness, whatever "ear" or "voice" they may have. You must have poetry and sensibility in music, or you are torn in pieces between disgust and admiration. Well, all this will take time to amend; but somebody must begin to speak decisively, and in the meantime the present transitional breed of musicians will be passing away. *Speramus meliora*, and don't let us encourage dilettante small-talk!—There is a fault, a dreadful fault in nearly all professional singers, which no poetically-minded person could fall into. We have before hinted at the damage which the musical cause is perpetually receiving, from the mechanical affectation of public singers in general. This is not a new topic, and we were glad to find the following happy passage in a number of the *Revue des deux Mondes* *apropos* of Rubini: "Besides, a certain vicious movement of the lips, of which Rubini could never divest himself, disclosed (*laisait apercevoir*) a degree of effort, and indicated that his vocal training had been a little hap-hazard. This fault, very common in our days, and which M. Mario has quickly seized and exaggerated, like a scholar who at first imitates his master's imperfection only, was most severely banned in the old Italian school. It was rigidly held and enforced there, that the face of a singer should express nothing but the sentiment he had to embody; and it was insisted that the arcana of vocalisation and musical mechanism should be for ever hidden from the public eye: a great rule in all Art, and one which is too much forgotten in our time." A hint for Pre-Raphaelites as well as singers. The art which cannot keep its counsel is no art at all. Thrill us, melt us, raise us, glorify us, artists all; but we no more want to see how you do it than to see the pulsation of which the blush of love is born.

The literary announcements are full of interest. M. Guizot is to give us a Memoir of Peel. Miss Mitford's correspondence is in the hands of her executor and friend, the Rev. W. Harness, for publication. Mr. Massey's "Craigcrook Castle," and Mrs. Browning's "Aurora Leigh," we have not yet seen. Mr. A. de Morgan says we should have the word "sarcast" to indicate a sarcastic writer or speaker. True: and there is plenty of room for other neological additions. Mr. A'Beckett was buried at Highgate the other day; present, Messrs. Bradbury and Evans, Thackeray, Mark Lemon, Horace Mayhew, John Leech, Shirley Brooks, John Tenniel, Perceval Leigh, Douglas Jerrold, &c.

During the winter, there will be musical performances at the Surrey Gardens, which we are glad to see, as well as that a dividend of five per cent. is to be paid for the half year ending January 1, 1857.

Spirit of the Press.

The Surrey Gardens tragedy is a topic of remark by our daily contemporaries. The *Daily News* leans to the conclusion that the alarm was not wilfully raised, and deprecates the suggestion that it was a plot of the swell mob, seeking to create confusion in order that they might have an opportunity to plunder.

The tinkling of the over-heated glass shade appears to have suggested this idea. They magnified it into the sound of a bell, and the sound of one bell they speedily magnified—as in the story of the three black crows—into the sound of many bells. Mr. Superintendent Lund has disposed of this fallacious notion. He, who knows from long experience the habits of thieves, remarks that the alarm was given by persons in the very centre of the assembly, and that swell-mobmen would have selected a position near the door, as favourable to the exercise of their peculiar industry. But Mr. Lund is in his turn equally infelicitous in his attempt to explain the origin of the panic. Without condescending to assign any reason for his belief, he attributes the alarm to some enemies of Mr. Spurgeon, desirous to annoy that gentleman by dispersing his hearers. It is really too much to call upon us to make such an uncharitable assumption without offering one iota of evidence. Nor is it at all necessary. History is full of precedents of fatal and unreasoning panics produced without any adequate cause. The obvious aim of the authors of the two explanations to which we have adverted, is to place Mr. Spurgeon and his friends in the attitude of martyrs to the cupidity or ill-will of others. On the other hand, voices are already audibly raised imputing the whole calamity to these gentlemen. We are quite as little disposed to join in this cry as in that raised by Mr. Spurgeon or by Mr. Lund. A similar accident might have happened at a play, or a concert, or a crowded political or philanthropic meeting.

But the *Daily News* thinks that Mr. Spurgeon and his friends acted in a callous and "irrational" manner.

The *Times* is more lenient, and perhaps just, than its contemporary. As to Mr. Spurgeon himself, it is said:—

The human voice is limited. Stentor himself could not be heard by the whole human race. On certain occasions 20,000 people are assembled in St. Paul's, but they do not hear, or expect to hear; on the contrary, as soon as the preacher appears in the pulpit they take out sandwiches, buns, brandy-flasks, and newspapers. No church in the metropolis holds 3,000, though some have a name for more. There is something, then, very ambitious, to say the least, in the attempt to have five times as many hearers as anybody has had before. Let Mr. Spurgeon be at least content with as many as the Surrey Music-hall was intended to hold sitting in comfort and with sufficient means of exit. It appears that he has the means of controlling the admission, since his own special flock is secured places before the proselytes and strangers are let in. He can charge a shilling a seat, and, if that is not enough, half-a-crown; in which case he will have some hearers who would not venture to push their way through a mob let in free. We do not say this from any desire to stint Mr. Spurgeon of his audience. We have no wish to criticize his style of oratory, which severe critics affirm to be of the familiar, bold, and irreverent sort. On the contrary, we are delighted to hear that there is one man in the metropolis who can get people to hear his sermons from any other motive than the fulfilment of a religious obligation. The men who have awakened slumbering generations, who have begun mighty movements, shaken idols, or Popes, or huge vices from their thrones, have not been uniformly characterized for severity of language, sobriety of illustration, and chasteness of style. Luther, Latimer, and many others, were remarkable for the contrary. Mere faults of style are no concern of ours, and apparently are tolerated by the British public when the substance finds an echo in their understandings or their hearts. But there is a certain moderation, as we have said, to be observed in all things—even in the size of congregations, little as we are accustomed to think of restricting them. Would Mr. Spurgeon be so good as to attend to the subject at once? Next Sunday, instead of 20,000, the Surrey-gardens will be blockaded from four o'clock by at least 50,000. They will expect to hear, not only Mr. Spurgeon, but also a sermon from him on the sudden fate of the victims last Sunday.

This apprehension is evidently groundless. We shall be very much surprised if Mr. Spurgeon preaches at all next Sunday. But be that as it may, the *Times* suggests that our public buildings ought to be erected with a view to such contingencies. At present, the entrances, staircases, and passages of our places of public assemblage, our theatres, music-halls, and even our churches, are not on a scale commensurate with the internal accommodation; and not equal to those of similar buildings abroad, or, as far as we have the means of knowing, of ancient amphitheatres.

For example, it takes a quarter of an hour for the occupants of the reserved seats in Exeter-hall to get out of the labyrinth into the open air. In case of actual fire how many of them could get out at all, or ever reappear, except in the form of calcined bones? Not many, we suspect. In the event of a mere alarm the exit would soon be stopped with fifty dead bodies, and the rest would have to make a virtue of necessity, and stand their ground unhurt. But it is not creditable to this country that we should run such terrible risks. Gambling with life is worse than gambling with money. When Covent-garden was burnt there were only 200 people under the falling beams; an hour or two before there were several thousand.

The *Spectator* speaks very hopelessly of the prospects of Spain, because she has nothing great but soldiers.

At one time the fighting strength of Spain placed at her command the sources of the precious metals, and then she was magnificent, openhanded, princely. But a nation of soldiers, with manufacturing capacities only in a corner of its territory, cannot reproduce wealth; and when Spain lost her exclusive military hold on the mint of nature, her power, her influence passed away: the wealth of the soldier state, in its decay, was replaced by the permanent and increasing deficit; and the credit of Spain in Europe about equals that of the ruined nobleman whose bills have become worthless, and whose desperation has obliterated even the last trait of self-respect—the desire to keep up the outward show of independence though the reality is gone.

Our contemporary does not think there is any proximate danger of a dissolution of the American Union.

A thousand ties bind together the Slave States and the Free. Southern men marry Northern maidens; Northern capital seeks and finds profitable investment in the South; and trade binds the Slave and the Free States in golden bonds. There is a powerful minority in Massachusetts, in New Hampshire, in Indiana, in Illinois, in New York, in Pennsylvania, as much devoted to Southern interest as to the Southerners themselves. It is this minority that makes the slave interest predominate in the Senate; it is this minority that gives the slave interest in the House of Representatives its small majorities in every crisis. The danger to the Union has blown over in every emergency: true, but no one can deny that it has blown over because there have always been Free-state representatives ready to concede to the South for the sake of peace. One day or another a tempest may arise that will shake and split the Union—what line the split will take no one can foresee; but the tempest has not yet arisen, for there is so strong a spirit of reverence for the Union, even among the Republicans themselves, that they would probably acquiesce at this moment even in the defeat of their candidate, the loss of Kansas, and the assured prospect of the extension of the slave power rather than imperil the Union.

In an article entitled "The Last Days of the Passport System," the *Spectator* says:—

The Belgian and French Governments have taken the first steps towards mitigating the passport nuisance, by an agreement between them, that persons who are simply passing through either country shall be permitted to go without a visa of the passport, if they can produce tickets to prove that they have paid for their journey to a place beyond the confines of the country. The Continental Governments will probably be quick enough to perceive that they must by degrees, and perhaps not slow degrees, diminish the restrictions upon travelling involved in the whole of the passport arrangements, for otherwise the Governments would be placed in the scandalous position of having to increase their restrictions in order to keep pace with the increase or celerity of travelling; while the momentum of the travelling force would trample down the restrictions.

Mr. Bessemer's invention, for the manufacture of malleable iron, is still the subject of disagreement. The *Examiner*, as is well known, is one of his supporters, and in its Saturday's number thus records the results of some experiments witnessed on the preceding day:—

From the tapping of the blast furnace to the production of an ingot of the malleable metal, weighing about a quarter of a ton, half an hour only transpired; whereas by the old process the same operation would have taken six hours, producing an inferior article, with a large expenditure of fuel. The experiment is highly imposing, and, considered in the mere light of a pyrotechnic exhibition, well worth seeing. The heat produced in the molten mass by the combustion of the carbon chemically combined in the cast iron is intense, and is accompanied by the discharge of a coruscation of sparks composed of carbonic acid gas along with slag. And towards the termination of the process a mass of all the impurities of the iron is vomited from the furnace in the shape of slag. We may add that before the performance of the experiment Mr. Bessemer delivered a lecture, explaining the rationale of his invention, which, for unaffected clearness, modesty, and simplicity reminded us of a lecture of Faraday. It gives us pleasure to state that the privilege of using the invention has been already disposed of to the extent of the annual production of a hundred and sixty thousand tons of iron or steel.

"Another Indian War" is the title of a caustic, but just article, from which we extract the following:—

Really the Hon. the East India Company seems to be on the high road to ruin. No sooner is it extricated from one foolish war than it engages in another, and that which it is now about to enter on seems of all others the most wanton. It now appears that some three years ago (the public knowing nothing at all about the matter) we made a convention with the Persians, the proverbial liars of broad Asia, by which they engaged not to attack Herat, the chimerical "key of India." The meaning of this is, that we guaranteed to Dost Mahomed the Afghan, once described as our implacable enemy, and once our prisoner of war, the possession of Herat and its territory, which once did belong to the Persians—never to the Afghans, but which has, in fact, constituted an independent Principality for fifty years, or for as long a time as the present Persian and Afghan dynasties, both of them usurpations, have themselves ruled their respective countries. In order to enforce this precious convention, it seems, by the last accounts from India, that an expedition of 10,000 men was fitting out, and that in mere preparation half a million sterling had already been expended. What is stranger in all this is, that the information of the Indian Government is so imperfect, that it is committed to a war without being sure that Persia has even attacked Herat, and consequently without being certain, although it is probable enough, from the known faithlessness of the people, that there has been any breach of treaty at all.

The pretext for the Convention, and the excuse for the war to which the convention gives rise, is, of course, danger to India from Russian aggression, a phantom at all times, but the merest dream of a sick diplomatic brain since the war. But let us repeat a few of the obstacles to an invasion of India by those Russians who could not defend their own territory, and lost 300,000 men in the mere attempt to do so. The nearest point of

the Russian territory on the Caspian, and that is very far from her real resources, is distant from Herat, over a roadless country, some 500 miles. Suppose them, however, in possession of Herat, "the key of India," and with it to have opened the gate. The gate is 700 more miles from the British frontier over one of the most difficult countries of the world: moreover, it is mountainous, resourceless for an army, and defended by wild tribes, who have harassed every invader, from Alexander the Great to Nadir Shah and General Pollock. We are in possession of the Indus and its tributaries, and of the few practical mountain passes that lead to Hindustan. Behind the rivers and passes we have 60,000 European troops, and 300,000 well-disciplined sepoys, and if a larger force be wanted, England can send it from the Thames or the Mersey in about one-tenth part of the time that a Russian army would take to march from the Caspian to the Indus. After the vanquishing of the Crimea had beaten us on the Indus, they would have a march of 1,500 miles to make in order to reach the powerfully fortified British capital in the marshes of Bengal, with many a stronghold to capture on their way. This is enough for the absurd chimera of Russian invasion.

But now for the force with which we are to make war on Persia. It numbers exactly the same as that with which Xenophon contrived to make his escape from the same country. Neither is our force, like that of the Greeks, all European, for the greater part consists of natives of India, well officered only by our countrymen. The Persians have to meet us an army of 80,000 infantry disciplined and organised after the European manner, and officered like our sepoys by Europeans. It has an Artillery which, as is always the case with the nations of Central Asia, is far better than its Infantry, and it has clouds of Cavalry. We have a voyage of 1,200 miles to make in order to get from Bombay to Bushire, on the eastern shore of the Persian Gulf, the point we aim at; and when arrived at that outlying point of the Persian Empire, we are at a distance, as the crow flies, of 400 miles from Tahiran, the Persian capital, and of 500 from "Herat, the key of India," while all means of transport over these extents of difficult country are absolutely wanting. The mere appearance of our force on his coast may probably frighten the King of Persia into a semblance of good faith, although, if he has common sense or common courage, it will have no such effect. If, on the contrary, the demonstration does not succeed, then we have nothing for it but to sail back to India, and make the pleasing reflection that we have only added some two millions to a debt, the interest on which already absorbs a tithe of the net revenue of India.

On the whole, the *Examiner* comes to the rational conclusion, that our mission at the Court of Persia is a serious and expensive nuisance, which ought to be abated.

The *Examiner* regards the infinite series of duels upon an American railway line, of which so much was made by the *Times*, as being about as like the serpent as two peas. The *Press* gives the following clever parody on the marvellous narrative:—

VITRIOL AND BLUNDERBUSS IN BRITAIN.

[The insertion of this horrid narrative has been delayed for a week in order that we might obtain satisfactory vouchers for the writer's respectability, sanity, and truthfulness, and on those points we have no doubt. Short of a miracle, we never read anything so simply stated, yet so incredible in its substance.—Ed.]

We left town on the 11th, by the 10-17½ Parliamentary Train of the L. N. W. R. On taking my seat in a saloon compartment, my attention was arrested by two young women in the carriage, A. and F. They were whispering together with peculiar earnestness. The only other occupants of the saloon were two wet nurses, a young widow, R., and five babies. By observing the countenances of the two young ladies, it was easy to perceive that they anticipated an adventure of no pleasing description; but hardly had I begun to conjecture what was the special subject of their apprehensions, when the train stopping at the W— station, a small acid-looking olive-complexioned Italian entered the carriage, bearing in his hand a black bag with the letter "B." painted on it in white.

He sat himself down vis à vis to A., F., and R., when the latter commenced a delicate flirtation with the olive-complexioned Italian. Hardly, however, had an assignation been agreed upon when the train again stopped, and an elderly gentleman, P., pulled open the door and flung himself into a vacant seat close to B. "You're a nice fellow, I don't think," was his half-truulent, half-jocose remark to B.; upon which A. asked B. what P. meant? when B. explained to R. that P. always wished to bully and insult him before his friends. F. then questioned P., who detailed the circumstances; when R. said, that B. should not be interfered with, and A. backed up B. against P. P. appealed to F. F. asked P. if he intended to fight? if so he ought to send a challenge to B. B. said that was already done, and that P. had his challenge in his pocket. P. said he was ready to fight if A. would choose weapons, when B., urged on by R., drew a stiletto, and with the speed of lightning and the ferocity of a wasp, struck a blow at P.'s heart. P. missed his aim, but left the quivering steel in P.'s great toe. P. immediately seized the blunderbuss always considerably slung in every first-class carriage of the L. N. W. R. in order that gentlemen may never be at a loss for a weapon in case of any unpleasant discussion arising, blew the would-be assassin's left arm to shivers, and then offered to fight R. and A. on the spot. R. instantly drew a Colt's revolver from her pocket, but P. blew R.'s brains out before she could use it, and severely injured A. with some stray slugs. A.'s screams were heartrending. Poor R.'s body lay on the floor unheeded. The passengers in the other compartments (ours was opened at the back, and they could see all that passed) signified by loud cheers and shouts of encouragement their savage sympathy with the venerable blunderbussier. But the matter was destined to receive still further complication. At the next station a wooden-visaged old gentleman in a tartan cloak joined us, and began to scold B. and P. with tolerably impartial dulness and acerbity. The little stiletto-carrier hugged the stump of his arm and groaned sulkily. P., who had quite recovered his naturally rather jovial temper, now indulged in a little quiet chaff, saying, "Come, come, Abby, don't try the high moral dodge with us. Who was poor N.'s friend of forty years, eh? and who

pinned his financial faith to M.G. of the British, and patronised a Sadlier?" Whereupon the old Scotch ter-magant drew from her reticule a hand grenade, which she threw violently in the midst of us. It almost immediately exploded, killing the two wet nurses and four babies. P. and the women escaped unhurt. The sight of the innocent children's mangled remains flying about the carriage was too much for my nerves, already unstrung by the horrible scene I had just witnessed, and I fell into a state of syncope, in which I remained for about ten minutes. When I came to myself I discovered that new horrors were in store for me. The fifth baby, crying after its murdered wet nurse, was rudely seized by F. and A., his head inserted into a Wellington boot, and at the first station we stopped at carried off by P. and dropped down the funnel of the locomotive. Soon after this a vicious old maniac, the other side of eighty, swung himself from the next compartment into the centre of ours, and screaming out "Ha! thus does the tyrannicide avenge himself," scattered seven bottles of vitriol in the midst of us. B. F. and A. and even P. himself were immediately burnt to cinders. I alone escaped with life. Both my legs were charred off at the stumps, and I still carry the back of my head in a sling. When the train arrived at its destination I expressed myself to the superintendent in terms of becoming horror and reprobation. He only laughed at me, and said, "Put a stop to it! Lor' bless you, sir! why folks would never take excursion tickets if they weren't to be allowed a little rational excitement on the journey. Bill, sweep up the mess in that compartment." I make no comment. Facts like these speak for themselves, for no account has yet appeared in the newspapers.

Of a contemporary who connects the name of Mr. Disraeli with its articles, the *Press* says: "If he were better informed he would know that the *Press* is above the dictation of any individual, and that whatever influence attaches to its opinions is due to its being the organ of a party." In replying to the *Morning Herald*, the *Press* says, on the subject of party tactics:—

The policy of the Conservative party must always be distinct from that of its antagonists. It does not live by agitation. The primary duty of the Conservative Opposition is to resist changes which it believes to be dangerous; but there can be no resistance where there is no attack. The only banner which it seems practicable for the Conservative party to display at the present time is administrative efficiency combined with practical reform and social amelioration. If this is vague, the vagueness only arises from the inexpediency of a Conservative Opposition pledging itself to particular measures, while uncertain of the circumstances which may attend its assumption of office.

The *Economist* takes up the cudgels against arbitrary legislation, with a special view to show how the Maine Liquor-law has failed. It calls to its aid the *New York Tribune*, a staunch prohibition journal, which, stating with great truth that excise and license laws were "only a tax on grog shops, and a shadow of restraint on riot and excess," adds: "We regret to say that the prohibitory laws appear in a majority of cases to have proved scarcely more successful. Through the laxity of executive officers, and the extraordinary complicity of judges, the Rum Power has in a majority of cases been enabled to trample on and defy the laws enacted for its subversion. If we may believe the reports which reach us from every side, the legal establishment of prohibition affords but a transient check to liquor selling and drinking." As to the present condition of that State, the *Economist* says:—

Maine is exposed to a furious political contest on account of this law, and its advocates are shouting, in some of the last journals that have reached us, exultation, defiance, and insult at the "Rum party," and rejoicing that the "Rum governor" has been defeated. This law, then, has been the occasion or the pretext for a succession of political battles, such as were previously unknown in the Granite State. The success of one party, though a majority, in attaining its objects by an arbitrary law, necessarily causes violence to oppose it. The lamentable consequence in this case, is that a moral law of infinite importance to man's welfare—the law of temperance—is made the theme of party disputes, is at one time insultingly triumphant and at another shamefully degraded, but always and by both parties really disregarded, and arbitrary violence exalted in its place.

Our contemporary does not believe that the mass, confessedly ignorant, acting under the dominion of blind passion, can by arbitrary legislation, such as the Maine Liquor-law, the Missouri seizure of the ballot boxes, and the Kansians decreeing free-soil, promote the morality and welfare of a great nation. At all events, such a belief finds but few followers in this country.

PANIC AT MR. SPURGEON'S SERVICE.

SEVEN PERSONS KILLED AND MANY INJURED.

It has been generally known that the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon has taken the Music Hall of the Royal Surrey Gardens, for three or four Sunday evenings, with the two-fold purpose of making known his religious views, and also of raising a sum of money to build a new chapel, or as he terms it a new tabernacle sufficiently capacious to seat the many thousands of his hearers, Exeter Hall having been found too small to accommodate half of the persons who regularly attended his ministry. Although no charge was made for admission, the announcement was publicly billed, and advertised in most of the daily papers. Sunday last was the first evening of this novel service. As early as five o'clock thousands after thousands of well-dressed persons, including men and women and also a large number of children, could be seen wending their way towards the gardens, and before the clock struck

six there must have been five or six thousand persons waiting in Penton-street, and the approaches to the gardens.

By five minutes after six o'clock the whole of the three spacious galleries were filled, the orchestra was also densely crowded. By the time Mr. Spurgeon took his seat, notwithstanding the immense size of the place, there was not sufficient room for a dozen more to enter, and when the seats became filled there were some two or three thousand persons who were content to stand in the passages, and there were considerably more standing on the green sward outside looking through the windows.

The proceedings commenced by the immense congregation—probably the largest that ever attended any minister since the days of John Wesley—singing a hymn, after which the reverend gentleman read a selection from the sixteenth chapter of St. Luke's Gospel, in which he forcibly showed that "No man can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and Mammon." The preacher, in introducing his subject, said that there were many present who had frequently neglected to serve God, although they knew it was their duty; but the fact was, they had done so, and they thought it was no sin, they imagining that they could run with the hare, and at the same time run with the hounds. If the present congregation professed to be Christians, let them act as such; but if they did not profess to be such, let them say so, and there would be an end of the case, for you "cannot serve God and Mammon." After dilating at considerable length upon the Gospel, another hymn was sung, when Mr. Spurgeon offered up another prayer, in which he alluded to certain persons, whom he knew, he said, to be present, who had been backsliders from the house of God; he also said, he could see present many females who had departed from the paths of virtue, and were bringing their fathers' grey hairs with sorrow to the grave. The exciting manner in which the preacher delivered the prayer appeared to rivet the attention of all present, and many an eye could be seen shedding tears, when all of a sudden almost simultaneously cries arose in different parts of the building, "The galleries are giving way!" "Fire, fire!" "The place is falling!" It is impossible to describe the effect these shouts had upon the audience. They rose en masse, and as if electrified, and apparently with one mind, made a desperate rush towards the various places of exit, causing the most fearful confusion and uproar, every person endeavouring to save their own lives at the risk of sacrificing those of their fellow-creatures. The reverend gentleman, with his stentorian voice, implored the excited multitude to keep their seats, assuring them there was no danger, and that the alarm was false. This assurance was repeated by the officials and others at every point of the building; but, unfortunately it had no effect upon those to whom it was addressed. Those in the rear of the doors pressed heedlessly upon those in front, and carried all before them like a raging flood. In the galleries when the cry was raised an immediate rush was made to the staircase, which soon became thronged. The pressure from the people in the first gallery at the north-west tower of the building was so great that those nearest to the staircase were driven out by those pressing behind with such terrific force, that the iron banisters, which were fixed into the stone staircase, and surmounted by a thick mahogany rail, were torn from their sockets, shivering to atoms the mahogany, and precipitating between fifty and sixty persons down the side of the staircase on the crowd below, killing some instantly, and fearfully wounding others.

The cries and shrieks at this period were truly terrific, to which was added the already-pent-up excitement of those who had not been able to make their exit. They pressed on, treading furiously over the dead and dying, tearing frantically at each other. Hundreds had their clothes torn from their backs in their endeavours to escape; masses of men and women were driven down and trodden over heedless of their cries and lamentations; men appeared to care not for women, and women appeared equally callous of their own sex, one object only appearing to fill the mind of all—that of self-preservation. Some climbed over the galleries, and dropped upon the heads of those beneath them, others smashed out the windows, vainly endeavouring to escape by jumping out, to the injury of those below. All this time the pressure from those behind became greater and greater; many who would not otherwise have been injured were crushed by the surrounding multitude. Women and even strong men fainted, dropped upon the floor, and were trodden over by those following them. Notwithstanding the number that had fallen from the gallery, the crowd still pressed on to the staircases, and had it not been for the providential circumstance that there was an iron pillar supporting the end of the gallery, the loss of life must have been most awful. While this scene of devastation and terror was proceeding at the north-west end of the building, similar horrors were being enacted at all other outlets.

As soon as the shrieks of the unfortunate creatures who were suffering in the inside were heard by those who had obtained ingress into the gardens, but could not obtain admission into the hall, they made a desperate rush for the outer gates; but by a strange arrangement, they could find no means of getting outside the gates, they having been firmly closed, to prevent the great crowd, which had been outside all the evening, from entering the gardens. Men, women, and children, climbed, were drawn, and thrown over the iron railings, many of them being seriously injured in consequence.

By this time the greater portion of the audience had escaped from the hall, and of course, with all precipitation, made for the street. Those who had been

fortunate enough to escape without injury assisted in bringing out their more unfortunate friends and companions, which at once realised the fact of the sad calamity to those outside, who, as quickly as possible, made their way toward the building for the purpose of seeking their relatives and friends. All those who had the power to do so had now left the hall, and only the dead, dying, and wounded were to be seen.

A large body of police, under the direction of Mr. Superintendent Lund, had arrived and rendered every assistance in their power. Such as were not too badly wounded were at once conveyed in cabs to their own dwellings; others, through the kindness of the inhabitants of Penton-street, Amelia-street, Carter-street, and Manor-street, were received and promptly attended to by the medical men in the neighbourhood.

The dead were conveyed, five to the workhouse of St. Mary, Newington, and two to their respective homes. With the exception of one, they were all females. There are also three other bodies at Newington workhouse of females, apparently under thirty years of age. From the appearance of the bodies, they being completely blackened, it is the general opinion that most of the persons died from suffocation. Three of them have severe contused wounds, evidently caused from being trodden upon.

The aspect of the hall, after the departure of the audience, from the debris of their garments, too sadly told the tale of the fearful struggle which must have occurred during the endeavours of the unfortunate people to escape. There was scarcely any description of garment, worn by male or female, but what was to be found in the building—boots, shoes, legs of trousers, tails and arms of coats, petticoats, shawls, bonnets, hats, victrolines, capes, coats, and other articles of wearing apparel to a great extent.

An eyewitness of the scene in the chapel writes that among the wounded were two gentlemen with their thighs broken, and women and men were to be seen stretched along the stone steps with the raging and maddened crowd trampling over them, while others dropped through the gap in the balustrades to the corridor below. One man was for some minutes in such a position, that many thought he would have been hanged. He was only released by a lady, who had thrown herself off the staircase, coming in contact with him in her descent. Of the people who were crushed and injured in the struggle, five were taken to Guy's Hospital,—four men, and a little girl about six years of age. As soon as the hall was entirely cleared, an official inspection took place to see whether there was any justification for the alarm which caused the dreadful catastrophe; and it was the opinion of those conducting the inquiry that none had existed, and it was stated to be the general belief that the outcry in the first instance was raised by a gang of swill mobmen who had repaired to the hall for the purpose of plying their ordinary vocations.

With regard to the effect of the dreadful scene upon Mr. Spurgeon himself, and his conduct during its progress, there are several accounts. Some assert that he was carried out senseless; others that, as soon as he became aware of the dreadful nature of the accident, he left as quickly as he could.

One correspondent writes:—

After the accident, Mr. Spurgeon wished to address those of the congregation who remained in the hall; and that at length, one of his friends, a deacon in his Church, shut his book, and led him from his temporary pulpit.

Another:—

Mr. Spurgeon continued his discourse after the terrible catastrophe. He appeared to treat it somewhat lightly, remarking that people would rush from danger to save their bodies, while they cared little about the salvation of their souls.

A third correspondent, who describes himself to have been connected with Mr. Spurgeon, says:—

Mr. Spurgeon, overcome with emotion, was unable to proceed, and cries of "Go on," "Preach on," only elicited from him an observation that he did not know what to say to them. He was utterly overcome, and was assisted down by several gentlemen, when his head sank on his breast, apparently insensible.

A fourth says:—

Mr. Spurgeon commenced his sermon by observing, that he could not, of course, after such an occurrence, preach to them as he would wish, but he would preach to them for the usual time if they thought fit to remain. Here another alarm and another rush took place, but not to anything like the same extent as the former. However, those who remained were evidently very ill at ease, and it is no wonder they were so, for the cries that reached them from the outside were heartrending. Under these circumstances, Mr. Spurgeon brought the service to a conclusion, after a hymn had been sung. The remainder of the congregation then left the hall. A collection was made as they moved out, and certainly the rattling of money-boxes sounded not a little strange on so very melancholy an occasion, when some hundreds were screaming and crying, and more than one corpse was being removed from the scene of so fearful a catastrophe.

The *Advertiser* says:—

Mr. Spurgeon's mind during the terrible scene manifested a composure truly astonishing. He seemed in no respect unnerved, but manifested a meek yet resolute determination to proceed; but the thieves, who must have comprised hundreds, continued their noises with such pertinacity as to render it utterly hopeless. Mr. Spurgeon then intimated that the meeting would dissolve, and exhorted the immense multitude to withdraw slowly.

Several hundreds of various articles were left in the chapel. Among these were bonnets, hats, gloves, sticks, umbrellas, muffs and Bibles.

According to one report, there seemed a species of telegraph going on amongst the ruffians, who had obviously concerted their plans with admirable skill; while they carried it out with corresponding ability. Small bells were heard to tinkle in connexion with

some of the principal sorties; for it became distinctly clear, that a great body of them were placed round the door, inside, and elsewhere, as a sort of fuglemen, to lead in "the rush." [The truth of this report has not been confirmed.]

FURTHER DETAILS.

The *Times* of yesterday says: It would seem now beyond the range of probability to ascertain by whom the false alarm of danger was raised, with what object, or from what cause. The subject at present is one entirely of speculation, and it is likely to remain so. The prevalent opinion, especially on the part of the police authorities and the office-bearers in Mr. Spurgeon's congregation, is that it was a pre-concerted movement. One circumstance goes to support this hypothesis. It is stated by Mr. Superintendent Lund, who was present from the commencement of the service, and occupied a seat on the basement of the building immediately in front of the preacher, that he saw three men who sat together on the same floor rise up simultaneously and cry "Fire," and that this was the signal for the furious rush that was instantaneously made towards the places of outlet from the hall. He has since identified the exact spot from which they rose, and it happens to be right in the very centre of the ground-floor, there being a back to the seat which distinguishes it from all the rest, and marks its exactly central position. The inference from this statement is, that the three persons in question were acting in concert, and that they had gone early, and deliberately chosen that particular place in the hall as the most eligible for carrying their diabolical machination into effect. It is worthy of remark, that though Superintendent Lund had a number of detectives scattered among the audience, not one of them was able to recognise a single pickpocket, but the police authorities have since heard of some cases of robbery committed during the confusion. Three persons, one of whom, a woman, was dead, were taken off the roof of a refreshment-room which runs along the northern side of the edifice, and on which it is probable they had leaped from the windows of the gallery above, a distance of between twenty and thirty feet. In the lower part of a window at the east end of the second gallery the glass was entirely broken, and there at least two persons were found with their heads protruding through the panes into the open air. The window is a great distance from the ground, and the suggestion is, that, having broken the glass with the view of jumping out, they found the leap so fraught with danger that they gave up the thought, but could not altogether retreat to their original position, owing to the pressure of the crowd behind. The little boy who was killed, and whose name has not since been ascertained, he having been carried away by his father to his own residence, was seen to leap over the balustrade of the circular staircase at the north-eastern tower, leading from the galleries, a distance of upwards of twenty feet, and fall with great violence on the stone floor beneath. Several of the women who were killed were found in positions which indicated that, unable to bear the enormous pressure of the crowd, they had sunk down, or fainted away, and then been trodden to death.

"J. R.," a correspondent of the *Times*, thinks the first symptoms of disorder were occasioned by an intentional rush of some person or persons who were at the side of the platform, causing in an instant a great deal of confusion, and inducing the congregation to rise from their seats in all parts of the building. A moment after, and the cry of "Fire!" was raised by a voice in the body of the hall; added to which a cry of "The bells! the bells!" and in an instant, and in the greatest confusion, there was a simultaneous rush of the immense body of people for the doors and windows.

One of the firemen employed in the gardens states that while Mr. Spurgeon was reading the lesson he was seated with other of his conferees in the small gallery over the orchestra, when one of the deacons came up stairs and desired his immediate attendance in the third tier of the north-west galleries, alleging that some youths had been misconducting themselves there, by exploding small quantities of gunpowder. The fireman directly proceeded to the spot indicated, and on arriving there distinctly perceived the smell of exploded gunpowder. No person being able or willing to point out the offending parties, he was in the act of descending to the ground floor of the hall when the cries of "Fire!" first ran through the building.

Mr. Spurgeon is represented to be in a dreadful state of mind; he cannot see anybody, and his friends are prohibited by his medical attendants from alluding to the catastrophe. He has been removed out of town, and will not preach at the Surrey Gardens next Sunday.

The deceased were probably crushed or suffocated. A young woman waited at the Police-station, and stated that she had caused the death of her sister. She states that her sister was thrown on her face on the stones, and she was pressed on the top of her, and heard her sister's last respirations, but was unable to extricate herself, and her sister was afterwards taken up dead.

The accidents of a minor description are much more numerous than was at first supposed, consisting chiefly of cuts and bruises, while many of those who escaped sound in limb suffered greatly from fright, and will probably bear to the end of their lives a vivid recollection of the appalling disaster.

THE KILLED AND INJURED.

The whole of the persons killed have been now identified, and their names are: Samuel Heard, aged twenty-four, single man, a tanner, residing at 8, Alice-street, Bermondsey New-road; Harriett Mathew, aged sixteen, unmarried, an apprentice to a draper at Islington, but residing at 22, Bridge-house-place, Newington-causeway; Harriett Barlow, aged thirty,

married, of 19, Bath-street, London-road; Harriett Johnson, twenty, unmarried, dressmaker, 6, Newnham-terrace, Hercules-buildings, Lambeth; and Elizabeth Mead, forty-three, married, 7, Love-lane, Stockwell. These remain at St. Mary's Workhouse, Newington, awaiting the coroner's inquest which was opened yesterday (Tuesday), at four o'clock. The two other persons killed were Mrs. Grace Skipper, of 40, Dobson-terrace, Kennington, and a little boy, whose name cannot at present be ascertained, making seven in the whole.

One of the cases is peculiarly distressing. Mrs. Barlow leaves two children, and was on the eve of her confinement with a third. Upon mentioning her desire to attend Mr. Spurgeon's service, her husband pointed out the great impropriety of doing so in her then condition. The deceased unhappily persisted, and, on the understanding that she was to be accompanied by her nurse, her husband yielded a reluctant consent. Unfortunately, Mr. Barlow did not explain to the medical men in attendance the precise condition of the deceased until some time after his arrival, or a more successful result would probably have attended the Cæsarean operation which was performed upon her body by Messrs. Gannan and Olney, surgeons, about ten o'clock. These gentlemen succeeded in removing from the deceased a remarkably fine child, which, in the course of nature, would probably have been born on Monday. Owing to the length of time which had elapsed since the mother's death the child was also quite dead, but it was perfect and uninjured in every respect.

The names of those who sustained injuries are: John Aldis and Mary Aldis, of 10, Mansion-house-street, Kennington; Ellen Stanton, 5, Penton-grove, Pentonville; Mr. Alworth, 1, Russell-place, Old Kent-road; Eliza Fletcher, 24, Bath-street, London-road, (bruised, and ruptured a bloodvessel); Henry Say, aged eleven, 17, Apollo-buildings, East-lane; Ellen Screeven Goddard, aged twenty, 1, James-grove, Peckham (one rib broken); and Sarah Burgess, 4, St. David-street, Dover-road, aged fourteen (much cut on the face and head). These are exclusive of the five who were conveyed to Guy's Hospital, and whose names are: Thomas Peacey, of 15, Grange-road, Bermondsey, who has sustained a simple fracture of the left thigh; George Lane, a married man with three children, living at 1, President-street, Goswell-road, having a comminuted fracture of the right arm; John Arkwright, 100, Long-lane, Bermondsey, single, much crushed about the throat and abdomen; and Edward Whitnall, aged twenty-four, a leather dresser, residing at 3, John's-place, Grange-road, Bermondsey, some rather severe scalp wounds and injuries across the loins. The little girl, beyond a slight wound in the mouth, was not otherwise hurt, but was much frightened. Her name has been identified as Margaret Weston, ten years old, living at 21, Upper Cumming-street, Pentonville. All the sufferers at Guy's are likely to recover.

The damage done to the Music-hall at the Surrey Gardens by the accident is not very considerable. It consists principally of broken windows, and 50*l.* will cover it all. The building was minutely inspected on Monday morning by Mr. Tyler, the manager of the gardens; Mr. T. K. Holmes, one of the directors; Mr. Horace Jones, the architect; and Mr. Ellis, the secretary; all of whom expressed themselves convinced that, beyond the broken windows and balustrades, the structure had sustained no injury, and that there was no cause for the alarm which unhappily led to the lamentable results that have brought sudden bereavement to several families, and deeply wounded the public mind.

PRACTICAL JOKING IN THE ARMY.

This vile practice has received a heavy blow and great discouragement at the hands of the Duke of Cambridge. It appears that Lord Ernest Vane Tempest and Cornet Birt, of the 4th Dragoons, at Brighton, have recently signalled themselves by their outrages on Cornet Ames, who has recently joined the regiment. At the mess on Sunday, the 21st September, Lord Vane Tempest behaved insolently to Cornet Ames; asking whether he had walked from the Pavilion to the Lewes-road Barracks to save expense; whether the reason he did not drink champagne was that he could not afford it; and other taunts. Ames ultimately refused to answer any more questions; whereupon Lord Vane Tempest threatened him with a degrading punishment. The same evening, the three officers dragged Ames into Lord Vane Tempest's room, overpowered and held him on a sofa while they shaved off one of his whiskers; then they put a bib on him and fed him with pap, slapping his back as if he had been a baby. They played other pranks on different occasions, such as breaking into his room and destroying his furniture. The misbehaving officers were placed under arrest.

A letter from Lord Ernest Vane Tempest appears in the *Times* of Saturday, in which, after giving his version of the story, his lordship complains of the state of suspense in which he has been kept while the military authorities are making up their minds as to the proper step to be taken with reference to his conduct. But, simultaneously, the following appears in the *Gazette*—

Cornets Lord Ernest Vane Tempest and William J. Birt, of the 4th Light Dragoons, are dismissed from Her Majesty's army, in consequence of conduct unbecoming officers and gentlemen, and subversive of good order and military discipline, as reported to Her Majesty by his Royal Highness the General-Commanding-in-Chief.

It appears that this decision was come to on Friday morning at a court of inquiry held at Brighton, com-

prising the whole of the officers of the 4th Light Dragoons, under the presidency of General Barnard, who was sent down by the General-Commanding-in-Chief for the purpose of investigating the charges. The greatest secrecy was observed. The details, therefore, were not allowed to transpire, and even the solicitor engaged by Cornet Ames to conduct his defence was not allowed to be admitted.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY IN THE MANUFACTURE OF STEEL.

(From the *Leeds Mercury*.)

Before the excitement occasioned by the new process of Mr. Bessemer has subsided, the interest of the students of mechanical science, and of the numerous parties connected with the various ramifications of the vast iron manufacture of this country, has been afresh excited by the announcement of a discovery by which, it is asserted, crude pig iron, of kinds previously thought unsuitable, may be made into fine steel with a rapidity hitherto unthought of, and at a great diminution of cost.

The inventor is Captain Uchatius, Engineer-in-Chief at the Imperial Arsenal, Vienna. Taking as a basis the well-known affinity of oxygen for carbon, on which Mr. Bessemer's improvement in the iron manufacture is founded, the Captain applies it to practical operations by means of cold water instead of cold air. Cast iron, he says, surrounded by any oxygenised materials, and subjected for a sufficient time to a cementing heat, will yield up a portion of its carbon, which will combine with the oxygen in the surrounding materials. If this process is imperfectly conducted, the iron produced will have a pure surface, but the interior parts will be of very inferior quality. To perform the operation perfectly and yet rapidly, Capt. Uchatius runs the crude molten iron from the furnace into cold water, which is agitated by mechanical means, and thus granulates the metal, and renders it more adapted for this purpose. In this state he mixes it with a cheap oxygen-yielding material, such as sparry iron ore, in a pulverised state, adding, in some cases, a little manganese, and melts the whole in an ordinary cast-steel furnace. The iron is thus separated from the impurities which it contained, and is increased in weight by a portion of that contained in the ore. The manufacture of the steel is finished in the usual manner, the softness of the metal being proportioned to the fineness of the granulation. By these means crude iron is converted into cast steel in little more than two hours, and the inventor estimates that any given quality may be produced at two-thirds of its present cost; while the necessity of using Swedish or Russian bar iron will cease.

The numerous and severe tests to which every new invention is put will soon fix the precise value of that of Captain Uchatius. In the meantime, it is satisfactory to know that many competent judges, after the experiments which they have witnessed, regard as perfectly successful a process by which the cost of all articles of steel will be greatly reduced, and their use proportionably increased, to the manifest advantage of the entire community.

Court, Personal, and Official News.

The Queen and her family returned to Windsor on Thursday after an absence of seven weeks. Her Majesty left Balmoral on Wednesday, and proceeded to Edinburgh. She slept at Holyrood Palace that night, and at half-past seven on Thursday morning set out for England. A goodly number of people, and a body of soldiers, attended Her Majesty to the station, where Sir George Grey replaced Lord Panmure in attendance on the Queen. At Berwick the Mayor and Corporation received Her Majesty, and a new engine was attached to the train. At Bilton there was a second change of engines; and here Earl Grey appeared on the platform and conversed with the Queen and Prince Albert. At Newcastle and Darlington fresh engines were put on. Her Majesty stopped at York to lunch; and here she was received with much ceremony, Lord Mayor Meek and Sir Harry Smith being present. At Doncaster a fifth engine was hooked on to the train, while Her Majesty shook hands and chatted with Lady Mary Wood. At Peterborough the Earl of Westmoreland was in attendance, and a sixth engine was attached. The train finally stopped at the goods-station, Maiden Lane; having performed a journey of 402 miles in ten hours and forty minutes—five minutes less than the time laid down in the programme. At the goods-station the carriages were placed upon the rails of the North London line; and thus Her Majesty was enabled to reach Windsor by railway without a single break in the journey. She arrived at Windsor Castle at a quarter before eight o'clock.

The Prince of Wales came up from Osborne the same day, and rejoined his mother at Windsor.

Her Majesty has liberally supplied the poor on the Royal domain at Balmoral with winter clothing and other comforts.

The Duchess and Princess Mary of Cambridge have returned to England from their chateau near Frankfort.

Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston arrived in London on Monday morning, from Broadlands, Hants, and left town in the afternoon for Windsor Castle.

Lord Panmure, whose term of office in attendance on Her Majesty has expired, returns to Glenmark for a short time to enjoy the sport of deer-stalking, previous to resuming the active duties of his office as War Minister.

Lord Stanley of Alderley arrived in London on Saturday from Alderley Park; Mr. Secretary Lambouch and Sir George Grey are also in town; Lord Clarendon is at the Grove; Lord Granville, Lord

President, is staying at Carlbad. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Duke of Argyll, and Mr. Vernon Smith, are all absent from the metropolis.

The office of Dean of Her Majesty's Chapels Royal, which is generally conferred on the Bishops of London, will, by Her Majesty's desire, remain in the hands of Bishop Blomfield.

On Tuesday evening last, the Grand-Duke of Tuscany arrived in Liverpool, under the title of Count Alberese, having previously taken apartments at the Victoria Hotel, St. John's-lane. On Wednesday, he visited the docks, St. George's Hall, and other public buildings, accompanied by his suite. His Royal Highness is an exceedingly agreeable and well-informed personage, and appeared highly gratified with Liverpool. He left for London on Wednesday.

Mr. Alderman Cubitt has been elected to represent the City at the Metropolitan Board of Works, in the room of the late Mr. Henry Hall.

The *North British Mail* says: "We understand that a requisition has been pretty numerously signed by the electors of the eighth ward [Glasgow], calling upon James M'Kensie, Esq., National Bank Buildings, to offer himself as a candidate for the representation of the city in Parliament."

Mr. J. B. Lee, of the Broad Sanctuary, Dean's-yard, Westminster, has been appointed secretary to the Bishop of London, on the retirement of Mr. Christopher Hodgson, who has filled the office for forty-three years.

Her Majesty, upon learning the straitened circumstances in which the two unmarried daughters of the late Mr. Sale, formerly Her Majesty's musical instructor, have been left by his decease, after a lengthened illness, which incapacitated him for many years from the exercise of his profession, has granted them a pension of 50*l.* a year out of her privy purse.

Lord Ebrington, before proceeding to the Continent for the recovery of his health, has addressed an epistle to his Marylebone constituents. He says that his illness has been caused by his devotion to the sanitary movement; but he hopes to be able to return to England healthy and well, to advocate parliamentary and administrative reform, the emancipation of the Jews, interference with Italy, and barrack accommodation for the soldier.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has been solicited by a Roman Catholic clergyman to prohibit the performance of *La Traviata* in Dublin. The reply of the noble earl is conveyed in these words, that he "does not imagine he can exercise any control in the matter, nor has he reason to believe that the opera in question is more exceptionable than others."

The *Chester Courant* states that Mr. Bright, M.P., is sojourning at Llandudno for the benefit of his health.

Miscellaneous News.

The building for the Manchester Exhibition, it is confidently asserted by the local papers, will be completed by the 1st of January next.

A locomotive engine exploded at Bolhow and Vaughan's iron works, Middlebro', on Thursday, afternoon; the engineer of the works and three men were killed.

At Worcester, on Monday, after a lengthened examination, Tipper, the cabman, charged with an attempt to poison witnesses, was discharged for want of evidence to convict.

A Coroner's jury have censured the authorities of King's College Hospital for their gross neglect of a poor, helpless, friendless, and dying girl who was commended to their care.

At the Eastern Steam Navigation Company's half-yearly meeting, on Wednesday, a report from Mr. Brunel anticipated that within a few months the Great Eastern now building at Poplar, would be ready for launching.

The famed collection of the Marquis of Hertford, K.T., which, owing to its noble owner's residence abroad, has been so little seen by the public, will be opened to the promoters of the Exhibition, to be held next year in Manchester.

Mr. Mechi's connection with City affairs is to be signalled, it is said, on the forthcoming Lord Mayor's day in a characteristic manner. We are to have the literal vanguard of agricultural progress as part of the procession, Mr. Mechi marshalling the array; and Boydell's locomotive is to clatter through the streets, drawing after it reaping-machines and threshing-machines, for the astonishment and edification of admiring Londoners.

Four concerts on a large scale have just been given at the musical inauguration of the New Free-trade Hall, Manchester, under the direction of Mr. H. B. Peacock, the gentleman who originated and carried out so successfully the "Concerts for the People," in the old Free-trade Hall. The present experiment has been greatly successful. The attendance was very great, the four concerts not having less than from 12,000 to 14,000 people present.

At the Surrey General Quarter Sessions, held on Wednesday, Mr. Johnson, the Chairman of the Committee appointed to inquire into the propriety of establishing a Juvenile Reformatory for Surrey, moved that the inquiry should be continued. This was opposed by Mr. Alcock, who objected to the continuance of a committee that made no report, and brought forward no definite proposition. Mr. Briscoe supported this view; but the majority of the magistrates voted in favour of continuing the committee.

The Hardwicke Reformatory has been in a languid state for want of funds. At the Gloucestershire Quarter Sessions, on Tuesday, Mr. T. B. Baker, the benevolent originator and manager of the institution, briefly addressed his brother magistrates, thanking them for the aid which they had rendered him in the

promotion of his object, and intimating that, in consequence of the lately increased grant of the Government, he should not require any further extraneous help.

The *Dumbarton Herald* appeared the other day, with, on one page of it, a blank column, surrounded by a mourning border, and surmounted by an intimation that the vacancy was occasioned by a judicial interdiction, received at the last moment, against the publication of the report of a trial for libel in open court, the judge not having given judgment. The evidence had been concluded, and the report was partly in type. The author of this arbitrary proceeding is the Judge of a Small Debts' Court.

Another death from practical joking. Thomas Hitchen, aged thirteen, the son of a mechanic at Pendleton. Deceased was employed at the mill of Sir Elkanah Armitage and Sons, Pendleton, and on Friday was playing with three companions at a cloth press when one of them asked the boy to lay his head within the press. He did so, and one of the lads then turned the screw till arrested by a shriek from Hitchen. They released him in great alarm, and found blood flowing from his ears. The unfortunate boy only survived until the following evening.

In the Bankruptcy Court, on Monday, in the case of the Royal British Bank, before Commissioners Goulburn and Holroyd, Friday was appointed for hearing arguments on the disputed adjudication. The court was densely crowded. It having been ruled that a shareholder could not be heard, the Court proceeded to hear the evidence on which the adjudication had been made. Several debts were admitted, but the case was ultimately adjourned for further discussion. The third sale of depositors' accounts took place at the Auction Mart, London, on Friday. The biddings at no time reached more than 12s. 6d., and the majority were at about 8s. to 8s. 6d.

Last Tuesday evening, a course of readings, exclusively for the benefit of working men, was commenced in St. Mary's school-room, Nottingham. "Dred," by Mrs. H. B. Stowe, was the first work, and the reading lasted from eight till about half-past nine, and will be continued every Tuesday. At Sheffield, Mrs. Webb, a coloured lady from the United States, has been reading portions of "Uncle Tom," cast into a dramatic form by Mrs. Stowe for the purpose. There was a numerous and respectable audience on each occasion, and the chaste style of Mrs. Webb's reading, and the ability with which she personated some of the characters, gave much satisfaction. In other places Mrs. Webb's audience has been very select.

The Board of Works met again on Wednesday. Mr. Bristow moved, that before deciding on any plans, the Board should request Sir Benjamin Hall to grant an interview to the engineer and a deputation: but the proposal was scouted as "humiliating." Mr. Turner moved, that the Board should adopt the engineer's plan for discharging the sewage into the Thames, at Long Reach; a proposal that would involve the transit of the sewage across the river. Mr. Doulton moved as an amendment, that there should be two outlets into the river, one on each bank, at Sea Reach. Upon this ensued a long and animated discussion on the merits of the many plans before the Board. Ultimately, the amendment was negatived by 23 to 10; while the original resolution was negatived without a division; so that, for the present, the Board cannot agree upon any plan.

For some time past, a practice, subversive of every feeling of decency, has prevailed amongst the undertaker men at St. Pancras Workhouse, and which ought to be immediately abolished by order of the Poor-law Board, for the parochial authorities seem to be either wholly unacquainted with it, or recognise it as an "institution" of the establishment. The practice alluded to is that of cooking, eating, drinking, and smoking in the dead-house, amongst the bodies, coffined and unopened, that are lying around, and comprising the deceased of both sexes, old and young, the very coffins themselves doing duty for various articles of household furniture. So obnoxious has the practice become, that both Mr. Wakley, the coroner, and Mr. Brent, the deputy-coroner, have expressed their strong disapprobation of proceedings which turn the dead-house of the poor into an imitation of a very low tap-room.

A murderous attack was made on the assistant of Mr. Berry, jeweller, of 53½, Pall-mall-street, of the name of Cope, and it is supposed that plunder was the object of it. On Monday night, some time before the time for closing (half past nine) the passers by observed Cope struggling with a strange man. A porter, named George Lerings, rushed to the door and gave the alarm. Meanwhile the man was violently striking Cope on the head, who crouched down behind the counter, overcome by the repeated attacks of his assailant. The man then rushed from the shop, but was soon captured. He has given his name as John Jenkins. The unfortunate man Cope was in the meantime found to be much injured about the head. He was quite insensible, and had no use in his limbs. He was conveyed to the Westminster Hospital. Although unable to articulate, and paralysed on one side, he is still perfectly sensible, but lying in a most precarious condition.

The neighbourhood of Dorking was thrown into a state of painful excitement, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., by the discovery in a shrubbery contiguous to the town, of the nude body of a new-born female infant, whose death, from the dreadfully fractured condition of the skull, and an incision in the neck, had evidently been caused by inhuman violence. On the 16th inst., an inquest was held on the body, before C. J. Woods, Esq., coroner for West Surrey, at the Bull's Head Inn, Dorking, and no clue having been then obtained to lead to an apprehension of the guilty party, an adjournment was suggested by the coroner, and

assented to by the jury, till Thursday, the 23rd inst. Up to Saturday last, however, the indefatigable exertions of the police had been apparently fruitless, but on that day, Superintendent Page, of the Surrey Constabulary, was induced, from suspicious circumstances, to apprehend a young woman of the name of Brooker, living in service, near to the spot where the body was found. She was taken before A. K. Barclay, Esq., one of the Dorking bench of magistrates, on Monday, when the evidence was of such a character as to lead to her being remanded, till the day on which the inquest will be resumed. The sad occurrence has created an intense sensation in the town and its vicinity.

Dr. Letheby's Annual Sanitary Report, published this week, shows a decrease in the rate of mortality of seventy per cent. compared with the last eight years. Dr. Letheby gives some curious facts as to the length of life amongst different trades. The mean age at which shopkeepers and domestic servants die is 58.8 and 58.6. Butchers, poultrymen, and fishmongers live to the age of 53.8. Clerks, accountants, and messengers reach to the age of from 52 to 52.3. The same is about the mean age of blacksmiths, gasfitters, and the workers in the coarse metals generally, while publicans, wine merchants, waiters, tailors, labourers, and shoemakers live to the age of from 49.9 to 50.3. Cabmen and ostlers and draymen live only to 49.4, and soldiers, sailors, and policemen reach only to 48 years. A like difference exists in the longevity of women, for while the wife of a shopkeeper will live to be about 57 years of age, and the domestic servant to 51.5, the wife of the publican and beer-shop keeper and the wife of the cabman and ostler will only reach 44.2 and 48 years of age; and, worse still, the poor needlewoman sinks into the grave at 42.6 years of age. In conclusion Dr. Letheby makes an earnest appeal in behalf of better drainage for the metropolis.

During last week the city of London has been deluged with letters from Serjeant Merewether, the Town Clerk, announcing that all persons on the Parliamentary register who will repair to the Chamberlain's office, Guildhall, between the hours of eleven and three, on any day during the present month, will be admitted to the freedom of the city, and be put upon the poll to vote for aldermen and common councilmen without any charge. On Wednesday there was, in consequence, a great rush to the Chamberlain's office, and during the greater part of the day the Chamberlain's large room was filled with applicants waiting their turn. Upwards of 240 were admitted to the freedom, and a great many were tired of waiting, and went away without undergoing the ceremony. On Thursday upwards of 200 applied for the privilege. The actual number of persons upon the register who are not already either freemen or liverymen is not supposed to exceed 8,000. The freemen entitled to vote at ward elections are estimated at about from 5,000 to 6,000. The public are entirely indebted to the existing Court of Common Council for thus throwing open the doors of the corporation to the whole of the rate-paying body of the inhabitants of the city. It is supposed that 4,000 or 5,000 at least will take advantage of the proffered boon during the present month.

Pickpockets and the electric telegraph do not harmonise well together. A good story is told this week of a couple of the fraternity who started from Birmingham, to operate in the West of England. Before they arrived at Bristol, a telegraphic message, stating that they were in the train, was received by the Bristol police authorities; and on their arrival at the station they were watched, and were seen to take tickets for Exeter. They were pointed out to the guard, and on taking their places, he warned the passengers in the same train against them, whereupon the whole of the persons in the carriage took up their carpet bags and went into another, leaving the two thieves by themselves. On the arrival of the train at every station, the guard significantly said to the passengers about to enter, "You can go in if you please, but these two men are notorious thieves," upon which, of course, they declined to ride in their company. On arriving at Exeter, the guard informed the superintendent, who put a railway policeman to watch them, he himself communicating the fact to the Exeter police-station. The men were soon found in bed at a respectable inn in Exeter. They were then in company with a third person, and on their arrival at the inn they had tea, and ordered breakfast in the morning, as they were going on by an early train to Barnstaple fair. The officers took the liberty to visit them in their bedroom, whereat they expressed themselves highly indignant, and threatened legal proceedings. All three were taken to the station-house, where they said, on being searched, "You won't find anything to make a case against us, and, if you take us before a magistrate, he can't give us more than three months." Finding nothing, they were allowed to depart, after all the police officers on duty had examined them, with a view of keeping an eye upon them, which they were told would be the case. They said they should go on to Barnstaple. The inspector said, "I will go with you, and put the police upon you." "Then we'll go on to Plymouth," they rejoined. "If you do," said the officer, "we'll telegraph to say you are coming." Then they said, "It's no use; we'll go right back to London," which they accordingly did, the officer seeing them safely in the train.

Life is to be measured by action, not by time: a man may die old at thirty, and young at eighty; nay, the one lives after death, the other perished before he died.—*Dr. T. Fuller.*

New sixpenny postage stamps have been issued. They are of an oblong form, and of a purple colour. The word "postage" is on the top margin, and the words "six pence" are in the margin at the bottom of the stamp.

Literature.

Prophecy, viewed in respect to its Distinctive Nature, its Special Function, and its Proper Interpretation. By PATRICK FAIRBAIRN, D.D., Professor of Theology in the Free Church College, Aberdeen. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

It is the fault principally of the prophetic interpreters by whom it is asserted, that Prophecy is the "prediction of the future"—thus narrowing its field to that which is but a small part of the whole—that it is believed by so many, as Voltaire has said, that "the study of the Jewish prophets plunges us in a chaos of contradictions which it is impossible for the weakness of the human mind to set in order." The history of the interpretation of prophecy is the most startling and humiliating chapter in the history of religious opinion. In the absence and neglect of definite hermeneutical principles, the methods adopted have been so arbitrary, and sometimes so whimsical and absurd, as to seem to excuse the obstinacy of unbelievers, and to involve right-intentioned theologians in hopeless embarrassment. For a long time past, the proceedings of orthodox literalists and of rationalistic critics have alike contributed still further to perplex and confuse the subject, and to deprive the argument from prophecy of its legitimate place and power amongst the evidences for Christianity. The necessity for a fundamental re-investigation of principles, and a more precise application of them, has been long felt by thoughtful biblical students;—amongst others by Dr. Fairbairn, who has already done something worthy of grateful remembrance for this defective and unsatisfactory part of our literature. He has carefully observed how the subject has changed its aspect, especially as to its argumentative bearings, and how urgently it demands to be treated "from a more internal position," than has formerly been the case. In this work he has attempted the establishment of the principles of the subject, and of more correct views than those prevailing and conflicting on various sides, respecting the proper function, essential characteristics, and right use and interpretation of the prophetic Scriptures. He has brought to his great task the preparation of years spent in these studies, and a largeness and independence of mind, as well as a solid learning and a sober judgment, not always displayed by English orthodox writers in this department.

Dr. Fairbairn has divided his work into two parts; the first, an "Investigation of Principles," which, treating of what is fundamental, requires to be "examined and weighed before judgment is pronounced on the other,"—and the second part contains an "Application of Principles to Past and Prospective Fulfillments of Prophecy." The history of opinion, and the views of particular writers, are but indicated;—a controversial discussion did not enter into the author's plan, and he has aimed rather at an exegetical and positive treatment of his subject.

The first part opens with an inquiry into "The proper calling of a prophet, and the essential nature of prophecy." The prophet is described as being, "in the light of Scripture, simply the recipient and bearer of a message from God; and such a message of course was a prophecy, whatever might be its more specific character—whether the disclosure of some important truth, the inculcation of an imperative duty, or a prospective delineation of coming events." This view is sustained and attested by the prophetic writings themselves, which give "no countenance to the notion that the gift of prophecy was conferred merely for the purpose of announcing beforehand the coming events of Providence." But, "there were differences between prophet and prophet, and between one kind of prophetic agency and another;" and by carefully noting these, Dr. Fairbairn distinguishes what is essential, and what is merely circumstantial, in the matter. And we shall here select a few paragraphs on the inspiration of the prophet, which we welcome from such a writer as Dr. Fairbairn,—but which, we thoroughly believe, had they proceeded from a quarter less notoriously orthodox, would have been condemned as of a rationalising tendency. We, however, deliberately approve them.

"It was, first of all, essential to the prophet that he should have direct personal communication from above, constituting him, in a sense quite special and peculiar, the medium of intercommunication between heaven and earth; and, consequently, that he should possess a state and temper of soul, such as might form a proper reciprocity for the Divine communications. In no case could these be dispensed with. Not the actual communications, for on them depended the very substance of the message he had to deliver; not the suitable inward reciprocity, for in that stood the capacity to apprehend, and the fidelity to use, what of supernatural insight might be imparted to him. That 'vision and faculty divine,' of which the world speaks, must have belonged to him, and in another manner than its most gifted seers can attain to; since he had to see what even these could not see, and to hear what they heard not; nay, not only to see and hear, but to give it willing audience in the inmost chamber of his soul. For Scripture knows as little of automaton prophets as the world knows of automaton orators or poets. Spirit to spirit—a spirit in man rightly attem-

pered and formed to the revelations presented to it by the Spirit of God: such is the essential law of God's working in his more peculiar, not less than in his more common, operations on the souls of men. The prophet, therefore, was emphatically what he was also often designated, 'a man of God.' He was one who entered into God's mind, who breathed God's Spirit; whose very heart and soul were imbued with the truth and righteousness of God: so that, when he came forth to speak to his fellow-men, it was to utter feelings of which he was himself profoundly conscious—to proclaim a message which had first given light to his own eyes, and awakened a response in the sanctuary of his own bosom. This much was essential to the proper calling and agency of a prophet, and could not, save in cases altogether exceptional, be dispensed with. But it was not essential—however commonly it may be so represented—that the prophet, when receiving the Divine communication, should be agitated and convulsed in the process; should be moved and driven to and fro, as by some overpowering and arbitrary impulse. The settled rule in the sphere of Scripture prophecy was, that 'the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets'—the higher impulse stimulating their natural powers, and informing their minds with supernatural revelations, but never destroying their personal freedom, or their proper individuality. And even the regulated excitement of entranced feeling was so far from being essential to the existence of a prophetic agency in its larger sense, that it had least play in those who occupied the highest standing, and were most plentifully endowed with the prophetic spirit.

"Secondly, in regard to the communication received by the prophet it was essential that this should constitute a message respecting the things of God, which it became God, in a supernatural manner to impart, and His people through an extraordinary message, to receive. [Differing thus, as Dr. F. goes on to show, from the dreaming, soothsaying, and divination, of the heathen world.] . . . But it was not essential—it was a matter that depended on the time and the occasion, whether in the word he spake there might be any explicit announcements of coming events in providence, or, if any, how far they might reach. In a more general sense every prophecy might be said to carry in its bosom a revelation of things to come, as it never failed to disclose the fundamental truths and principles of God's righteous government, and to represent them as the moral hinges on which the events of time and the issues of eternity perpetually turn. In Old Testament times, more especially, it could not fail to have much of a prospective bearing on the future, as everything then pointed onwards to a more perfect state of things. But in the more specific sense of definite and precise information respecting the future operations of God in the world, prophecy was far from being uniform. Neither did it always enter into such prospective details, nor, when it did, was the disclosure of these made to assume the appearance of the more direct and primary object aimed at. . . . The moral and religious element in prophecy was ever to be viewed as occupying the primary, and the predictive no more than the second and subservient place. [But] . . . whether we look to the nature of their calling, or what was needed for its proper authentication, it could scarcely fail that prophecy, in its more regular and wonted ministrations, should partake much of a predictive character, and by indications of supernatural foresight, should often give conclusive evidence of its Divine origin."

In this passage the italics are ours; and are used, not to mark anything novel or startling, but, to point out those sober views, unquestionably true, which our popular prophetic writers have been accustomed almost wholly to ignore.

After the inquiry into the relation of prophecy as prediction, to the more comprehensive scope of prophecy in general, Dr. Fairbairn's work is concerned only with the special and restricted department of prophecy, which contains announcements, more or less definite, of the future. In this sense, then, the word is henceforth employed; but the reader is warned to remember that it is a great limitation of the Scripture idea, and that it requires to be carefully borne in mind that it is so, in order to arriving at safe and well-grounded principles of interpretation.

Dr. Fairbairn's second chapter of principles is on "The place of prophecy in history, and the organic connexion of the one with the other." This we must pass by with the solitary remark, that it dwells on the facts, that prophecy took its rise and occasion in historical events,—that, again, it produced history,—and that history, in its turn, fulfilling prophecy, itself also became prophetic. The third chapter is entitled "The proper sphere of prophecy—the Church." This is a matter of great moment; and the truth, that the covenant people are the parties, and the good of the Church the object, for the sake of which prophecy was given, is one which gives rise to important principles of interpretation. The Church exists in unbroken continuity—under successive dispensations, indeed, and in successive phases of development,—but still one Church, in all ages, pervaded by one organic life. Its region is not the natural, but the moral. Prophecy, therefore, as a revelation to the Church, cannot predict the future for the sake of the mere occurrences themselves, as matters of curiosity or facts of ordinary history,—for then it would itself belong to the region of nature and the world, and not to the province of religion and the Church,—but, as "the Church moves in the moral element," the prominent point in all prophetic intimations is something of a moral kind. From this general view, Dr. Fairbairn deduces three immensely significant principles for the guidance of the interpreter:—

[1.] "It will lead us to view everything, not through a natural, but through an ethical, medium. In the predictions, for example, respecting states and kingdoms, it will dispose us to look not so much to the land or territory they occupied, or the external changes these might

undergo, as to the rational beings composing them, who alone were proper subjects of a moral treatment. . . . To have respect to the territories, rather than to the people who inhabited them, were to look at the prophecies and their fulfilment in a simply natural light. It were to make account of the relation in which they stood to the omniscience and power of God, but to lose sight of their connexion with his moral government. . . . [2.] Nor is this all;—for, by keeping thus prominently in view the moral element in prophecy and its primary destination to subserve spiritual interests, we escape from what, more than anything else, has impoverished much of our prophetic literature, and we may almost say, has stricken it with the curse of barrenness: namely, the disposition to treat the subject of prophecy merely as a branch of the evidences, and to make account of nothing but what it contains of the miraculous. . . . It has presented them to men's view, merely on their natural side, apart from their moral use as manifestations of God's character—has treated them, not as integral parts of a revelation, but only as evidences of a revelation; and the natural result has been, that being under-estimated by the defenders of the faith, they have been but more rudely disparaged and assailed by its opponents." [And in another place our author again says:] "It is clear we should not expect prophecy to be framed, as if its argumentative value were the main service it is intended to render. Whatever it may be fitted to yield of this description, is rather to be regarded as an incidental result, than its direct and proper aim. It speaks for the most part in a tone of confidence and sympathy, as to those who should be disposed to receive and profit by the communications it addressed to them, not with a view to meet, on the field of controversy, persons on the look out for grounds of objection to the truth of God. The moral position of such persons is entirely wrong, and it is only what might be expected, that various things respecting prophecy and its fulfilment, should afford ground for doubt or cavil to them which appear full of light and satisfaction to the children of God."

[3.] "And not only so, [contemplating prophecy merely in its relation to Divine foresight, and as a branch of evidences,] but the further error is naturally fallen into, of expecting prophecy to be more full and explicit in its announcements regarding future events, than from its inherent nature and immediate uses it could properly be. Valued only for the evidences it contains of Divine foresight, a mode of interpretation is in danger of being adopted, which, in its craving for specific predictions would confound the characteristics of prophecy and history. How far this has actually been the case will [hereafter] appear."

The fourth chapter, on "The relation of Prophecy to Human Freedom and Behaviour,"—a most important question, on which not a few have felt most painful difficulties—after a full consideration of the various elements and aspects of this branch of the subject, is thus judiciously summed up:—

"When the predictions recorded in Scripture relate to things which belong peculiarly to God—when it is God's omniscience in foreseeing, His veracity in declaring, and His overruling providence in directing coming events, that is concerned—then, undoubtedly, the predictions are to be regarded as of an absolute character—they foretell what infallibly shall come to pass. But when, on the other hand, the word of prophecy takes the shape, as it often does, of threatenings of judgment, or promises of good things to come, the prophetic element is not the first and the determinate thing which must, at all events, develop itself, but rather that which is secondary and dependent. It always implies, if it does not expressly declare, a certain state of mind and course of behaviour as the ground of its prospective intimations. And before we inquire whether any events in Providence precisely correspond with those previously announced in the prophecy, there is a primary question to be settled, How far does the spiritual condition of the parties interested agree with what is expressed or implied in the prophetic announcement? Nor is this dependence of such portions of prophecy on the condition of those who are the subjects of them, a mere expedient devised to meet a difficulty in interpretation. On the contrary, it rests on a principle which is essentially connected with the nature of God, and therefore cannot but pervade the revelations He gives of His mind and will in Scripture. There, from first to last, all is predominantly of a moral or spiritual, as distinguished from a simply natural character; and in nothing more does the religion of the Bible, in its entire compass, differ from the religions of the world, than in the place it assigns to the principles of righteousness. It knows nothing of results in good or evil, coming as merely natural processes of development, but ever brings into account the eternal distinctions between sin and holiness, which have their root in the character of God. It was the capital error of the covenant people that they so often forgot this. The simply natural element was ever apt to assume too high a place in their minds, and in their reckoning imparted an absolute and unconditional character to the promises of God. For them, a most pernicious and fatal mistake in experience, as it must also be for us in interpretation, if we should tread in their footsteps."

The topic next entered on is "The Prophetic Style and Diction," a subject which demanded, and has received, the most careful and elaborate treatment from Dr. Fairbairn, inasmuch as "it has been associated with many fanciful notions, and is now, more than ever, mixed up with modes of interpretation altogether groundless and indefensible." We are sorry that our limits will not permit us to give an account of the five sections of this chapter; but we must content ourselves with noting two points only. First, Dr. Fairbairn is wholly opposed to a view to which Bishop Butler has lent the sanction of his name, and which may be expressed in his own words—that, "Prophecy [in the narrow sense] is nothing but the history of events before they come to pass." The rejection of such a view was involved in all that the author of this volume had previously contended for; but it is here distinctly shown that the principle of regarding even predictive prophecy as merely anticipative history, will not

stand, by any fair construction, with some recorded examples of fulfilment in the New Testament; that it obliges an interpreter to make arbitrary and fanciful accommodations; that the evidences of a close and literal fulfilment on which it relies, are often incapable of vindication by the real historical results; while the bulk of the prophecies must necessarily be regarded as unfulfilled, and left to stand over for their fulfilment to the time of the end. Secondly, Dr. Fairbairn maintains, with other sober and learned writers, that the general character, at least, of the prophetic delineations and addresses, is that of scenic and ideal representation, relatively free from restrictions of time; and is not direct and literal description:—exceptional cases, apparently or really such, are duly considered, and referred to the circumstances in which such prophecies were given, and the specific purposes they were intended to serve.

The last chapter of the investigation of principles is a very fruitful one, on "The Interconnected and Progressive Character of Prophecy"; but we have reluctantly to pass it by.

The second part of the work, on the "Application of Principles," we have designedly left untouched in this too brief notice, although we have read it with a deep sense of its almost singular and unapproached value amongst later works on its subjects in this country. Those subjects are: "The Apologetic Value of Prophecy,"—examining the prophecies respecting the Jewish people, the states and kingdoms around them, the Messiah, and the destruction of Jerusalem:—"The Prophetic Future of the Jewish People;" and "The Prophetic Future of the Church and Kingdom of Christ." The author's mode of viewing the second of these subjects is already known from his previous publications. As to the future of the Church, he has, as his principles will lead the reader to anticipate, nothing in common with the peculiar views of the historicising and millenarian interpreters of the Apocalypse. Those who assent fully to his principles, however, will differ with him in certain special interpretations, while coming to a general agreement as to the character of the Church's future, and the methods of its realisation. We now leave this interesting and important work to the hands, and we hope to the faithful study, of our readers.

BIRTHS.

- Oct. 13, at Queen's-terrace, Middlesborough, the wife of the Rev. H. P. BOWEN, of two sons.
Oct. 15, at Lower Clapton, Mrs. JOHN HESLINGTON, of a daughter.
Oct. 19, at 1, Lavender Villas, Malvern-road, Dalston, Mrs. JAMES CLARKE, of a son.
Oct. 17, at Stobo Castle, the wife of Sir G. MONTGOMERY, Bart., M.P., of a daughter.
Oct. 20, at Exeter, the wife of Mr. J. F. OSMOND, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

- Oct. 14, at the Union Chapel, Luton, by the Rev. J. Makepeace, PHILIP OAKLEY, fourth son of JOHN FISH, Esq., of Canonbury-grove, Islington, to ESTHER, daughter of WILLIAM WELLS, Esq., Luton, Beds.
Oct. 14, at the Independent Meeting-house, Oulton, Norfolk, by the Rev. E. Jeffery, Mr. EDMUND WELLS, of Ippington, to Miss GEORGIANA WRIGHT, of Mannington.
Oct. 15, at the Independent Chapel, Harting, by the Rev. James Morgan Edmworth, Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER MALPAS, of Portsea, to FRANCES HANNAH, eldest daughter of the late Mr. GEORGE LIVER, of Harting, Sussex.
Oct. 15, at Rendham Meeting, by Rev. J. Harrison, Mr. WM. PARKINSON, of London, to Miss FREEMAN, of Swelling.
Oct. 15, at St. Nicholas' Church, Brighton, by the Rev. Wm. Gresley, M.A., Prebendary of Lichfield, Mr. J. A. COWX, of Brighton, to ELIZABETH, youngest daughter of the late Mr. WILLIAM SOWARD, of London.
Oct. 15, at Portland Chapel, Southampton, by the Rev. A. McLaren, B.A., Mr. GEORGE BUTCHER, of Aylesbury, third son of THOMAS BUTCHER, Jun., Esq., of Tring, to FANNY ELIZABETH, youngest daughter of Mr. MARSHALL, of the former place.
Oct. 17, at the Independent Chapel, Honiton, by the Rev. W. Evans Foote, Mr. JAMES SNELL, to Miss ELIZABETH STONE, both of Honiton.
Oct. 21, at Craven Chapel, Marshall-street, Golden-square, by the Rev. John Graham, Mr. HENRY JAMES VIRGIN, of Oxford, to SARAH FERRON, youngest surviving daughter of the late Mr. DURELY, Cambridge-terrace, Hyde-park.
At the British Embassy, Paris, WALTER TREVOR STANNUS, Esq., son of the Dean of Ross, to the Hon. CATHERINE GERALDINE VESSEY FITZGERALD, daughter of the Lord FITZGERALD and VESSEY.

DEATHS.

- Sept. 27, at Lewisham, PHOEBE, the widow of the late JOHN ROGERS, Secretary of the Western Kent Sunday-school Union, aged thirty-six.
Oct. 13, deeply lamented, Mr. WILLIAM MEERES, of Great Evernden, Cambs., in his sixty-sixth year.
Oct. 13, at Nazing-park, Essex, ANNA MARIA, widow of the late GEORGE PALMER, Esq., who for many years represented the southern division of the county in Parliament, in her eighty-seventh year.
Oct. 14, at Lower Norwood, Surrey, MARY ANN, the beloved wife of Mr. WILLIAM EDWARD FRANKS, of that place, and 33, Fenchurch-street, London, in her fifty-sixth year.
Oct. 16, at the residence of his son, No. 9, Castle-terrace, Kentish-town, THOMAS PRESTON, Esq., formerly of Tooley-street, and the Island Lead Works, Limehouse, in the eighty-fifth year of his age.
Oct. 16, at 10, Salem-place, Exeter, MARY, the wife of Mr. S. TREHANE, in her eighty-third year.
At Richmond, MARY ANN, wife of RICHARD HASSELL, M.D.
At Royal-crescent, Bath, Rear-Admiral the Hon. GEORGE FREDERICK HOTHAM, aged fifty-seven.

Paterfamilias writes to the *Times*, to state that much of our silver coinage is suffering from illegal defacement. "I have several of these pieces now before me; and it is quite apparent, from a careful examination of them, that they pass through some regular process, by which their weight is decreased, to the advantage of the persons engaged in the operation. Those that have come into my possession have evidently been drilled, the half-crowns and shillings in the centre, and the sixpences close to the rim."

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

There has not been much fluctuation in the money market during the past week. To day the market was a little weaker, Consols being about $\frac{1}{2}$ below yesterday. On the whole, considering the unsettled aspect of monetary affairs, the stock markets retain considerable steadiness. The loans on stock, which were renewed by the Bank on Tuesday last for one week, were finally repaid to that establishment to-day, and occasioned rather more demand for money in the Stock Exchange; nevertheless, from day to day loans are obtainable on Consols in "the house" at $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. In the discount market the demand for money was very active. Consols are $91\frac{1}{2}$ for money, and $91\frac{1}{2}$ for Account. The New Three per Cents. are $91\frac{1}{2}$ and the Reduced, $90\frac{1}{2}$ $91\frac{1}{2}$. Exchequer Bills are 3s. to 6s. premium. Bank Stock is $210\frac{1}{2}$ 213.

The last Bank of England Returns were unfavourable, but less so than was expected. The decrease in the Bullion was 646,000*l.*, but the Other Securities were half a million less. The imports of the precious metals last week amounted to about 780,000*l.*, and exports 535,000*l.*, besides heavy shipments to the Continent, which must be quite as much more, which makes the total exports upwards of 1,000,000*l.*

The continental advices regarding the state of the Money Markets are more favourable, still the solution of this important question appears to be as yet unsettled. In Germany, the bankers, by stringent measures, have recovered from the recent perturbations sooner than in France; and it appears that the endeavours of the Bank of France to obtain power from the Government to issue a larger amount of notes than they are privileged to do, has been met with a decided negative by the Minister of Finance. There is no likelihood of that national establishment issuing any 25-franc notes over and above their regular circulation, far less suspending specie payments. At Paris to-day the closing quotations were 66.75 for cash, and 66.80 for the end of the month, showing a fresh decline of $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. since yesterday. *Bons fide* investments in the French funds are continued, but are apparently inadequate to arrest the downward tendency.

In the Foreign Stock Market the principal change to notice has been Turkish Six per Cents., which, owing to a statement that a new loan of 8,000,000*l.* will shortly be announced, have declined to 89 $\frac{1}{2}$, 89 $\frac{1}{2}$, 89 $\frac{1}{2}$; the Four per Cents. are 99 $\frac{1}{2}$.

A moderate business has been done in Railway Shares, principally in Lancashire and Yorkshire and London and Brighton. Prices, however, have in some few instances not been supported, while a slight advance may be noticed in one or two of the leading lines. The public refrain from selling, and the supply of floating stock is very moderate—two circumstances which combine to give this market a firm basis.

An intimation was conveyed yesterday from the Unity Bank to Mr. Cuthbert, the chairman of a committee of proprietors, that Mr. Baylis is no longer connected with that establishment in any way whatever, except as a shareholder.

Evidence continues to be received from the manufacturing towns that the trade of the country is upon a basis not to be disturbed by the perturbations of the money and stock markets. At Manchester during the past week, although the transactions have been on a moderate scale, there has been an improved tone, and the home demand is said to be better than for many years past. The Birmingham advices describe no change in the iron-market. The general manufactures of the place are well sustained, and in some particular branches there is great activity. At Nottingham the tendency has been towards a further advance in prices, consequent upon an increasing demand for the United States and also for home consumption. Both in the hosiery and lace trades there is a scarcity of hands. In the woollen districts there has been no variation, and business is carried on with caution pending the approaching sales in London. The Irish linen-markets are slightly less firm.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian colonies during the past week have comprised nine vessels; three to Port Phillip, three to Sydney, two to New Zealand, and one to Adelaide, with an aggregate capacity of 5,963 tons. The rates of freight continue to exhibit heaviness.

The general business of the port of London during the week has been active, although the arrivals have been less numerous. The number of vessels reported inward was 195; being 93 less than in the previous week. These included four cargoes of sugar, three of tea, seven of fruit, and a large number of grain and flour. The number of vessels cleared outward was 116, showing a decrease of 7; those clearing in ballast amounting to 17. The number of ships on the berth loading for the Australian colonies is 52, being 10 less than the last account. Of those now loading 4 are for Adelaide, 1 for Auckland, 4 for Geelong, 3 for Hobart Town, 5 for Launceston, 1 for Melbourne, 2 for Moreton Bay, 7 for New Zealand, 8 for Port Phillip, 1 for Portland-Bay, 1 for Port Fairy, 12 for Sydney, 2 for Swan River; and 1 for Warrnambool.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Consols	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$
Consols for Account	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 per Cent. Red.	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$
New 3 per Cent.	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$
Annuitants	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Stock	Shut	Shut	Shut	Shut	213	213
Bank Stock	Shut	Shut	Shut	Shut	213	213
Exchequer-bills.	7 pm	5 pm	4 pm	5 pm	4 pm	7 pm
India Bonds	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Long Annuitants	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, c. 32, for the week, ending on Saturday, the 11th day of Oct., 1856.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued, ... £34,064,400

Government Debt, £11,015,100

Other Securities, ... 3,429,500

Gold Coin & Bullion, 9,589,400

Silver Bullion, ...

£34,064,400

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital, £14,553,000

Reserve, ... 3,138,475

Public Deposits, ... 8,001,501

Other Securities, ... 21,049,117

Notes, ... 3,521,620

Gold and Silver Coin, 550,667

Bills, ... 958,421

£36,500,309

Oct. 16, 1856. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Friday, October 17, 1856.

BANKRUPTS.

HUART, A., Bull Head Dock, Rotherhithe, manure manufacturer, Oct. 27, Dec. 1; solicitors, Messrs. Cox and Sons, Sisle-lane, City.

ETHELINGTON, E., Godalming and Aldershot, Surrey, grocer, Oct. 28, Dec. 2; solicitors, Messrs. Linklaters and Hackwood, Sisle-lane, City.

WOODHAM, H., Idel-lane, City, licensed victualler, Oct. 28, Dec. 2; solicitors, Messrs. Overbury and Peak, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.

WOOLLETT, R., Fenchurch-street, City, tea and coffee dealer, Oct. 28, Nov. 29; solicitors, Messrs. Russell and Davies, Coleman-street.

REYNS, W. A., Wallingford, Berkshire, baker, Oct. 28, Nov. 29; solicitors, Messrs. Linklaters and Hackwood, Sisle-lane, City.

COOPER, W. C., Warwick-street, Pimlico, cheesemonger, Oct. 30, Dec. 2; solicitors, Messrs. Clarke and Carter, Moorgate-street.

JOHNSON, J., Bourn, Lincolnshire, ironmonger, Oct. 28, Nov. 18; solicitors, Mr. Phillips, John-street, Adelphi; and Messrs. Mortimer and Knight, Birmingham.

GILL, J., Dewsbury, Yorkshire, grocer, Nov. 4, Dec. 1; solicitors, Messrs. Scholes and Son, Dewsbury; and Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.

IRMAN, H., Bradford, Yorkshire, shopkeeper, Oct. 28, Nov. 28; solicitors, Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.

ANDERSON, W. N., Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant, Nov. 12, Dec. 3; solicitors, Messrs. Wells and Smith, Hull.

ROBERTS, J., Pentre, Flintshire, corn dealer, Oct. 30, Nov. 21; solicitors, Messrs. Evans and Son, Liverpool; and Mr. Roberts, Mold, Flintshire.

Tuesday, October 21, 1856.

BANKRUPTS.

KNIGHT, G., Poole, licensed victualler, Oct. 31, Dec. 2; solicitors, Messrs. Mardon and Fryhard, Newgate-street.

NASH, T., Leather-lane and Kirby-street, Hatton-garden, carpenter, Nov. 6, Dec. 8; solicitors, Messrs. Boulton, Northampton-square, Clerkenwell.

JOSEPH, J. A., Bishopsgate-street Within, City, mining agent, Nov. 1, Dec. 2; solicitor, Mr. Dalton, King's Arms-yard, Moor-gate-street.

COOPER, J. C., Princes-street, Soho, carver, Nov. 3, Dec. 8; solicitor, Mr. Levy, Burton-crescent.

BELL, R., Gracechurch-street, City, contractor, Nov. 3, Dec. 8; solicitors, Messrs. Lawrence and Co., Old Jewry-chambers.

DAVIS, E. M., Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire, licensed victualler, Nov. 1 and 26; solicitor, Mr. Bartlett, Birmingham.

WATFORD, R., Exeter, attorney, Oct. 30, Nov. 27; solicitor, Mr. Stogdon, Exeter.

PARKER, A. S., Plymouth, draper, Oct. 27, Dec. 1; solicitor, Mr. Elworthy, Plymouth.

ROSEBANK, J., Thornhill, Yorkshire, manufacturer, Nov. 3, Dec. 2; solicitors, Messrs. Scholes and Son, Dewsbury; and Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.

BOURNE, J., and ROWSON, T., Macclesfield, Cheshire, silk manufacturers, Oct. 31, Nov. 27; solicitors, Messrs. Parrott and Co., Macclesfield.

BROWN, M. H., and STONLEY, C., Bishopwearmouth, Durham, builders, Nov. 4, Dec. 2; solicitor, Mr. Brignal, Durham.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Oct. 20.

The quantity of wheat offering from our neighbouring counties this morning was moderate, but the greater part being in very middling condition was offered at irregular prices, and very little sold; finest dry samples went off slowly in per quarter under last Monday's prices. The demand for foreign wheat was limited, with less doing than on Friday, but prices were well maintained. Norfolk flour was offered at 48s, without leading to business; good American firm. Barley dull, but without change in price. Beans and peas unsold. The sale of oats was slow, particularly for new corn, but fine old could not be bought upon lower terms. Linseed cakes met with a limited demand at last Monday's prices; seed without alteration.

BAITISH.		FOREIGN.	
Wheat—	s. s.	Wheat	s. s.
Essex and Kent, Red	60 to 74	Dantzic	76 to 90
Ditto White	64 80	Konigsberg, Red	70 78
Lincoln, Norfolk, and		Pomeranian, Red	72 82
Yorkshire Red		Rostock	72 82
Scotch	62 74	Danish and Holstein	66 72
Rye	42 44	East Friesland	58 62
Barley, malted	46 50	Petersburg	52 70
Distilling	40 44	Riga and Archangel	—
Malt (pale)	76 78	Polish Odessa	58 64
Beans, Maragan	40 46	Marianopol	64 70
Ticks	—	Taganrog	—
Harrow	—	Egyptian	46 48
Pigeon	—	American (U.S.)	64 70
Peas, White	42 44	Barley, Pomeranian	40 42
Grey	38 40	Konigsberg	—
Maple	38 40	Danish	40 44
Boilers	44 46	East Friesland	34 36
Tares (English new)	38 40	Egyptian	30 32
Foreign	36 38	Odessa	30 32
Oats (English feed)	24 26	Beans—	
Flour, town made, per		Horse	38 42
Sack of 280 lbs.	56 60	Pigeon	42 44
Linseed, English	36 37	Egyptian	36 37
Baltic	62 64	Peas, White	42 44
Black Sea	54 58	Oats—	
Hempseed	45 48	Dutch	24 32
Canaryseed	68 74	Jahde	32 32
Cloverseed, per cwt. of		Danish	19 26
112 lbs. English	—	Danish, Yellow feed	25 30
German	—	Swedish	25 27
French	—	Petersburg	23 28
American	—	Flour, per bar. of 100 lbs.	
Linseed Cakes, 150 lbs to 160 lbs		New York	35 37
Rape Cake, 60 lbs to 70 lbs per ton		Spanish, per sack	58 60
Rapeseed, 40 lbs to 42 lbs per last		Carawayseed	36 40

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday, Oct. 20.—There is now no doubt that a considerable portion of English red cloverseed caught by the recent heavy rains has been spoiled, and being sown it is scarcely worth harvesting. The small quantity first secured comes out slowly, and little foreign arrives; high prices are asked for the few lots appearing. Trefoil sells on moderate terms. Fine winter tares are saleable at the present low rates, as an investment to hold over for another season, but the soft samples are not taken for this purpose. New hempseed has come in to numerous houses in small lots, and sells lower in consequence. In first hands canaryseed is scarce, and very dear in second, but the consumption is now greatly reduced, and less satisfies the demand.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 9d to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; of household ditto, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per 4 lbs loaf.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, LONDON, Monday, Oct. 20.

Several parcels of very good foreign sheep have lately reached this market, and they have carried a large quantity of internal fat. The beasts are certainly improving in quality; and the calves, from their extreme whiteness, are much in favour with the butchers. Fresh up from our own grazing districts there was rather an increased supply of beasts, compared with Monday last; but their general quality was by no means first-rate. Irish beasts came to hand in fair condition. Selected breeds were in moderate request, at prices quite equal to those realised on this day se'nlight. Inferior descriptions met a dull sale, and in some instances the quotations ruled rather lower. From Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire we received 2,200 shorthorns; from other parts of England, 400 of various breeds; and from Ireland, 500 oxen. There were no arrivals from Scotland. For the time of year, we were very moderately supplied with all breeds of sheep; nevertheless, the mutton trade ruled heavy, at a decline in the quotations of 2d per 8 lbs. The top figure for Down was 5s; for half-breeds, 4s 10d per 8 lbs. The show of calves was limited, and the real trade ruled steady at 4d per 8 lbs above last Monday's currency. The best calves realised 5s 4d per 8 lbs. Higher prices were realised for pigs, but the demand for them was by no means active.

Per 8 lbs to sink the offal.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts	2 8 to 3 0		Pr. coarse woolled	4 2 to 4 4	
Second quality	3 2 2 8		Prime South-down	4 8 5 0	
Prime large oxen	3 8 4 4		Lge. coarse calves	4 2 4 10	
Prime Scots, &c.	4 6 4 8		Prime small	5 0 5 4	
Coarse inf. sheep	3 4 3 6		Large hogs	3 8 4 4	
Second quality	3 8 4 0		Neat sm. porkers	4 6 5 2	

Suckling calves, 23s to 30s; Quarter-old store-pigs, 21s to 28s each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Oct. 20.

Since our last report rather large supplies of country-killed meat have come to hand; but the supplies slaughtered in the metropolis have been very moderate. There is a slight improvement in the trade generally, as follows:—

Per 8 lbs by the carcass.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef	2 6 to 3 10		Inf. mutton	3 2 to 3 4	
Middling ditto	3 2 3 6		Middling ditto	3 6 4 0	
Prime large do	3 8 4 2		Prime ditto	4 2 4 10	
Do. small do	4 4 4 6		Veal	3 10 5 0	
Large pork	3 8 4 4		Small pork	4 8 5 6	

PRODUCE MARKET, MINCHING-LANE, Oct. 21.

SUGAR.—We have again to report that the market opened for the week with great activity, and a large amount of business has been done at a further advance of 6d. 750 hhds West India sold, including 250 hhds of Barbadoes, in public sale, at 48s to 51s 6d. 20,000 bags Mauritius were offered in public sale, and all found buyers at 38s to 51s; crystallised, 54s to 55s. 4,000 bags Bengal sold, and fine Cossipore showed an advance: date, 48s to 49s 6d; grainy, 50s to 52s; and 1,500 bags Siam, 49s to 52s. The refined market is firm; grocery lumps, 54s to 59s.

COFFEE.—2,300 bags Tellicherry were offered in public sale, for which there did not appear to be buyers at previous rates, and one-third only sold, 52s 6d to 52s 6d; 70 bales and 33 half-bales Mocha sold, 76s 6d to 84s; and 53 casks Ceylon, 60s to 62s. 775 bags Mysore were bought in, 57s.

RICE.—We are without transactions of importance to report to-day.

SALTPETRE.—1,400 bags were offered; a part sold, refraction 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, and sold from 36s 6d to 37s, which showed an advance; refraction 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ bought in, 38s 6d.

RUM.—The market has a very firm appearance.

COTTON.—700 bales sold at the full prices of yesterday.

TALLOW continues firm, at 54s 9d on the spot, 54s 6d all the year, and 55s spring delivery.

OTL.—Linsed remains quoted 40s.

INDIGO.—The quarterly sale will be resumed to-morrow (Wednesday).

TEA.—The general tone of the market has been firm, and a fair amount of business done.

In other articles no material alteration.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday, Oct. 20.—We had less doing in Irish butter in the past than in the preceding week. There were free buyers at previous rates, but the agents were not sellers, unless at an advance of fully 2s per cwt, which caused a partial and temporary check to the demand. A very fair amount of business notwithstanding was transacted, chiefly in resales, at an advance of 1s, and the tone of the market at the close was strong and healthy. Of foreign we have nothing new to report; prices graduated from 90s to 110s, according to kind and quality, and were well supported. Bacon of prime quality, landed, was rather more saleable, at no material change in value. Any the least defective was not easy to sell on reasonable terms. About 400 bales were reported to have been sold by a Limerick shipper for four months at 58s. Hams and lard were in request, at full prices.

PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.

	s. s.		s. s.
Friesland, per cwt.	110 to 116	Cheshire, per cwt	64 to 74
Kiel	110 to 116	Cheddar	74 86
Dorset	114 120	Double Gloucester	60 68
Carlisle	94 106	Single ditto	—
Waterford	104 112	York Hams	104 108
Cork (new)	98 112	Westmoreland ditto	98 100
Limerick	98 106	Irish ditto	86 90
Sligo	98 110	Wiltshire Bacon (dried)	78 84
Fresh, per dozen	12 14	Irish (green)	70 74

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Oct. 20.

Although the arrivals of potatoes during the week have been very moderate, the demand for most kinds is in a sluggish state, as follows: York regents, 90s to 100s; Kent and Essex ditto, 80s to 90s; Scotch ditto, 80s to 90s; middlings, 50s to 60s; Lincolns, 70s to 80s; blues, 70s to 80s per ton.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Oct. 20.—We cannot report any change in our market. The demand has been moderately active, and the currency may be quoted as follows:—

Mid and East Kents	70s 90s to 100s
Wend of Kent	60s 70s to 84s
Sumex pockets	60s 65s to 70s

WOOL, CITY, Monday, Oct. 20.—Since our last report there has been much less doing in all kinds of home-grown wool, both for use here and export. We have, however, no actual decline to notice in prices; but holders generally, owing to the stringent state of the money market, are ready sellers at our quotations.

Per pack of 240 lbs.

South Down hogs—fleeces	£18 0 to £19 0
Half-bred ditto	16 10 to 16 15
Kent	15 10 to 16 10
South Down ewes and wethers	16 10 to 17 0
Leicesters	13 10 to 14 5
Clothing picklock—sorts	18 0 to 19 10
Prime and picklock	17 0 to 18 0
Choices	15 10 to 16 10
Super	15 0 to 16 0
Combing wether matching	20 0 to 21 0
Picklock	17 15 to 18 10
Common	16 0 to 17 0
Hog matching	21 10 to 22 0
Picklock matching	18 10 to 19 0
Super ditto	15 10 to 16 0

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c.—The flax market has been moderately active, and full prices have been realized in every instance. Fine Baltic hemp has sold at from 36s to 38s per ton more money; whilst inferior parcels have continued firm. Jute and coir goods command extreme rates.

TALLOW, Monday, Oct. 20.—Our market is firm, and prices are rather higher than on Monday last. To-day, P.Y.C., on the spot, is selling at 55s per cwt. Town tallow, 54s nett cash; rough fat, 2s 11½d per 8lbs.

PARTICULARS.

	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.
Stock	Casks. 27416	Casks. 22373	Casks. 30079	Casks. 24865	Casks. 14350
Price of Yellow Candle ..	43s 0d	58s 6d	67s 0d	62s 0d	55s 0d
Delivery last Week	43s 6d	58s 9d	67s 6d	61s 0d	54s 0d
Ditto from the 1st of June ..	3474	3882	3469	3264	2815
Arrived last Week	35014	42345	27923	42781	49334
Ditto from the 1st of June ..	30802	42192	22002	25931	40904
Price of Town Tallow	45s 0d	62s 6d	68s 6d	61s 0d	56s 6d

OILS, Monday, Oct. 20.—The amount of business doing in linseed oil is but moderate, and the nearest quotation on the spot is 36s per cwt, with sellers for the first three months of next year at 36s. Rape is steady, but not dearer. Coconut moves off freely at 46s to 48s per cwt. Spermin is offering at 103½ to 105½ per fan. In the value of other oils no material change has taken place. Turpentine is held on former terms.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, Oct. 21.—Trade without alteration. Prime meadow hay, 68s to 80s; superior old, 84s to 90s; inferior, 80s to 60s; rowen, 50s to 70s; clover, 70s to 110s; second cut, 70s to 95s; straw, 26s to 30s.

COALS, Monday.—A general reduction on Friday's rates. Stewart's, 19s 6d—Hutton's, 19s 6d—Hartlepool, 19s 3d—Eden, 18s 6d—Lambton, 19s—Horton, 17s 6d—Heaton, 17s 6d—Wylam, 18s—Hartley's, 18s—Tynfield, 16s. Fresh arrivals, 244; left from last week, 1; total, 245.

HIDE AND SKIN MARKETS, Saturday, Oct. 18.

Market Hides, 55 to 64lbs.	0 4 to 0 4½	per lb
Ditto 64 72 lbs.	0 4½ to 0 4½	"
Ditto 72 80 lbs.	0 4½ to 0 4½	"
Ditto 80 88 lbs.	0 4½ to 0 5	"
Ditto 88 96 lbs.	0 5 to 0 5½	"
Ditto 96 104 lbs.	0 5½ to 0 6	"
Horse Hides	7 0 to 0 0	each
Calf Skins, light	2 0 to 4 0	"
Ditto full	6 0 to 0 0	"
Polled Sheep	4 3 to 5 3	"
Kents and Half Breds	3 9 to 4 3	"
Downs	3 0 to 3 8	"
Lambs	2 9 to 4 6	"
Shearlings	0 0 to 0 0	"

COTTON, Liverpool, Oct. 21.—The market closed very firmly, and prices of American were ½d per lb dearer on all current quantities; other kinds ¼d per lb, and low Sea Islands ¼d per lb dearer. The sales to-day amounted to 15,000 bales, 2,000 of which were purchased for export, and 6,000 on speculation, and including, in addition to American, 800 Egyptian, at 8½d to 9½d; 2,000 Surat, at 4½d to 5½d; and 70 Sea Islands, at 12½d to 13½d per lb. Imports since Thursday, 15,000 bales.

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A Half-Tester Patent Iron Bedstead, three feet wide, with Bedding, &c., complete:—

Bedstead	£ s. d.
Chintz furniture	1 4 6
Pailasse, wool mattress, bolster, and pillow	0 14 0
A pair of cotton sheets, three blankets, and a coloured counterpane	1 5 0
	4 14 6

A double bedstead, same

If without Half-Tester and Furniture

Single bed, complete

Double bed, complete

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There are three principal avenues by which Nature expels from the body what is necessary should be expelled therefrom. These three are the Stool, the Urine, and the Pores. These must be kept in a healthy condition, or disease is certain. This is a fixed and positive law; and no human being can safely disregard it. In addition to this, the Liver must be kept in order.

THE LIVER IS THE LARGEST ORGAN IN THE BODY, and has some of the most important functions to fulfil. It regulates the life, and consequently the digestion and the bowels. The stomach must be invigorated and made healthy. Added to all this, the strength and tone of the system must be kept up by proper nourishment, exercise, and rest.

THESE ARE PLAIN AND SIMPLE LAWS:

and when they all work harmoniously, a person is in sound health. This position will not be questioned.

Now, when the system is diseased, it is the first grand object to set all these functions at work, both to expel disease and to restore the health.

The bowels must be opened, cleansed, soothed, and strengthened; the urine must be made to flow healthfully and naturally and to throw off the impurities of the blood; the liver and stomach must be regulated; and, above all, the

PORES

must be opened, and the skin made healthy. These things done, and nature will go to her work; and ruddy health will sit smiling upon the cheek; and

LIFE WILL BE AGAIN A LUXURY.

We will suppose the case of a person affected with a bilious complaint. His head aches, his appetite is poor, his bones and back ache, he is weak and nervous, his complexion is yellow, the skin dry, and the tongue furred. He goes to a doctor for relief, and he gives a dose of medicine to purge him freely. He takes it, and it operates profusely, and he gets some temporary relief.

BUT HE IS NOT CURED!

In a few days the same symptoms return, and the same old purge is administered; and so on, until the poor man becomes a martyr to heavy, drastic purgatives. Now, what would be the

TRUE PRACTICE

in such a case? What the practice that nature herself points out? Why, to set in healthy operation all the means that nature possesses to throw out of the system the causes of disease. The bowels must of course be evacuated, but the work is but begun at this stage of the business. The kidneys must be prompted to do their work, for they have a most important work to do; the stomach must be cleansed; and, above all, the pores must be relieved and enabled to throw off the secretions which ought to pass off through them. We repeat, that by

THE BOWELS, THE URINE, THE PORES,

the disease must be expelled from the system, and not by the bowels alone, as is the usual practice.

And to effect all this, a medicine of no ordinary kind will answer the purpose. Resort must be had to a remedy that is congenial to the human system, a remedy that strengthens while it subdues disease. Such is the remedy found in

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Suitably packed for all climates, and with full instructions. In canisters, at 1s. 1d.; 1lb. 2s. 9d.; 2lb. 4s. 6d.; 5lb. 11s.; 12lb. 22s. Super refined quality, 1lb. 6s.; 2lb. 11s.; 5lb. 22s.; 12lb. 33s. The 10lb. and 12lb. canisters are forwarded carriage free, on receipt of post-office order. Barry Du Barry and Co., 77, Regent-street, London; also, at 60, Gracechurch-street; 330 and 451, Strand; 4, Cheapside; 68, Cornhill; 49, Bishopsgate-street; 55, Charing-cross; 54, Upper Baker-street; and 63 and 50, Oxford-street.

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continues to give her useful and interesting delineations of character, from an examination of the handwriting, in a style peculiarly her own, and never before attempted in this country. All persons desirous of knowing themselves, or the true character of any friend in whom they may be interested, must send a specimen of their writing, stating the sex and age, and the fee of thirteen penny post stamps, to Miss Couppelle, 69, Castle street, Oxford-street, London, and they will receive in a few days a full and minute detail of the talents, tastes, affections, virtues, failings, &c., of the writer, with many other things hitherto unsuspected. To prevent mistakes, all applicants are requested to enclose an envelope directed to themselves. Miss Fletcher says, "You have described his character very truly." I. Adams Esq.: "Many thanks for your faithful portrait." W. Gibbs Esq.: "My sister Fanny says it is quite correct." Miss Curtis: "I am most gratified with your faithful answers to my questions." All communications are confidential.

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HAIR, WHISKERS, &c.? If so, use Miss Couppelle's Crinutrin, which has for many years been noted all over the world for its almost miraculous properties, and is the only remedy for restoring the hair that can be fully depended upon. It is guaranteed to produce whiskers, moustachios, eyebrows, &c., in a few weeks, and will be found eminently successful in nourishing, curling, and beautifying the hair; checking greyness in all its stages, strengthening weak hair, preventing its falling off, and restoring it in baldness, from whatever cause. Upwards of one hundred physicians recommend it in the nursery for producing a fine healthy head of hair, and averting baldness in after years.

Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers in the world. Price 2s., or will be sent post free on receipt of twenty-four penny stamps, by Miss Couppelle, 69, Castle-street, Newman-street, Oxford-street, London. Family bottles, price 6s. each, containing the quantity of five small ones. At home daily, except Sundays, from Eleven till Five. "Five Minutes' Advice on the Hair." Whiskers, &c., with numerous testimonials, indisputable facts, which the sceptical are invited to read, and a list of hundreds of agents in England, Ireland, and Scotland, sent post free for two penny stamps.

HAIR DYE.—COUPPELLE'S DYE is the only pure and efficient one extant, it changes the hair in three minutes to any required shade, from light auburn to a jet black, so beautifully natural as to defy detection, and will be found infinitely superior to the many disgraceful dyes now advertised, which smell horribly, stain the skin, burn the hair, and leave an unnatural tinge. Price 3s. 6d. of all chemists and perfumers, or sent free by post on receipt of fifty-two penny post stamps, by Miss Couppelle, 69, Castle-street, Newman-street, London.

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WITHOUT A TRUSS.—Dr. BARKER'S celebrated remedy for Rupture is protected by the Royal Letters Patent of England, and secured by the seals of the Royal Colleges of Medicine of Paris and Vienna. It was completely successful in curing 217 cases last year in private practice, and is now made known as a public duty, through the medium of the Press. In every case of single or double rupture in either sex, however bad or long standing, it is perfectly applicable, effecting a cure in a few days, causing no confinement or inconvenience in its use whatever, and will be hailed as a boon by all those who have for years been obliged to wear torturing trusses, and other means of support. Persons in any part of the world can have the remedy sent to them, post free (packed so that no one can know the contents), with full and simple instructions for use, on receipt of 10s. 6d. in post-office stamps, or by Post-office order payable at the General Post-office, to Charles Barker, M.D., 10, Brooke-street, Holborn, London. Any imitation or infringement of this triple patent will at once be proceeded against, and restrained by injunction of the Lord High Chancellor. The following are extracted from Dr. B.'s large pamphlet, containing upwards of 1,100 Testimonials: "If anything is worth knowing, it is worthy of being extensively known, and I consider there can be no degradation in your advertising your remedy, as you aim at the mitigation of suffering, and the preservation of life, and your name and position ought to protect you from the shafts of envy and malice." —J. Pereira, M.D., Finsbury-square. "Your remedy quite cured the case I told you of." —J. M. Esq., Surgeon, Edgware-road. "I find myself completely cured, and have tried every means to prove the cure by lifting and running, which, I am happy to say, I can do, without pain, or using any truss." —F. W. "Many thanks for your remedy; I have thrown my truss away, glad enough to get rid of the torture of it." —G. H. "Your remedy has cured my rupture, and I have used violent exertion since without any sign of its re-appearance." —Miss S. "A fair time has elapsed since I used your remedy; moreover, I have been examined by our surgeon, who declares I am quite cured." —J. P. "My rupture being twenty-eight years old, I never expected so perfect a cure." —E. L. "My boy's rupture is cured, and he is now quite easy and can play about without pain." —Mrs. H. P. "I applied your remedy six weeks ago, and it gives me great pleasure to inform you my rupture has not been down since." —D. L. "I have not been so comfortable for many years, thanks to your treatment." —Miss E. "I now write to tell you my daughter is perfectly cured by your remedy." —Mrs. H. "It is with the most pleasurable feelings imaginable, that I write to inform you I am quite cured of my rupture." —W. M. "I have received a perfect cure from the remedy you sent me; mine was a scrotum rupture, and very bad indeed." —H. T.

NATURE'S TRUE REMEDY. DR. TOWNSEND'S SARSAPARILLA

There are three principal avenues by which Nature expels from the body what is necessary should be expelled therefrom. These three are the Stool, the Urine, and the Pores. These must be kept in a healthy condition, or disease is certain. This is a fixed and positive law; and no human being can safely disregard it. In addition to this, the Liver must be kept in order.

THE LIVER IS THE LARGEST ORGAN IN THE BODY, and has some of the most important functions to fulfil. It regulates the bile, and consequently the digestion and the bowels. The stomach must be invigorated and made healthy. Added to all this, the strength and tone of the system must be kept up by proper nourishment, exercise, and rest.

THESE ARE PLAIN AND SIMPLE LAWS; and when they all work harmoniously, a person is in sound health. This position will not be questioned.

Now, when the system is diseased, it is the first grand object to set all these functions at work, both to expel disease and to restore the health.

The bowels must be opened, cleansed, soothed, and strengthened; the urine must be made to flow healthfully and naturally and to throw off the impurities of the blood; the liver and stomach must be regulated; and, above all, the

PORES must be opened, and the skin made healthy. These things done, and nature will go to her work; and ruddy health will sit smiling upon the cheek; and

LIFE WILL BE AGAIN A LUXURY.

We will suppose the case of a person affected with a bilious complaint. His head aches, his appetite is poor, his bones and back ache, he is weak and nervous, his complexion is yellow, the skin dry, and the tongue furred. He goes to a doctor for relief, and he gives a dose of medicine to purge him freely. He takes it, and it operates profusely, and he gets some temporary relief.

BUT HE IS NOT CURED!

In a few days the same symptoms return, and the same old purge is administered; and so on, until the poor man becomes a martyr to heavy, drastic purgatives. Now, what would be the

TRUE PRACTICE

In such a case? What the practice that nature herself points out? Why, to set in healthy operation all the means that nature possesses to throw out of the system the causes of disease. The bowels must of course be evacuated, but the work is but begun at this stage of the business. The kidneys must be prompted to do their work, for they have a most important work to do; the stomach must be cleansed; and, above all, the pores must be relieved and enabled to throw off the secretions which ought to pass off through them. We repeat, that by

THE BOWELS, THE URINE, THE PORES,

the disease must be expelled from the system, and not by the bowels alone, as is the usual practice.

And to effect all this, a medicine of no ordinary kind will answer the purpose. Resort must be had to a remedy that is congenial to the human system, a remedy that strengthens while it subdues disease. Such is the remedy found in

OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S AMERICAN SARSAPARILLA AND PILLS.

They will cleanse and invigorate the stomach; freely purge the bowels; make the urine to flow healthily and clear; open the pores; give a pleasant temperature and tone to the skin; and do all this in the gentlest manner, without doing violence to the system.

The Creator has laid down certain fixed and immutable laws, which govern both the physical and moral man. One of these is, that everything that lives shall

TAKE FOOD OR DIE.

Whatever is endowed with life, must have that life supplied with the elements which sustain it.

Deprived of a proper amount of nutrition, and the body languishes and dies. It is upon this principle that sickness produces an abnormal condition of the system, and then medicine becomes as necessary as food. The question arises,

WHAT IS THE RIGHT KIND OF MEDICINE?

Reason and science reply, that which gives back to the body the natural and healthy use of its functions.

This Medicine is found in Old Dr. Jacob Townsend's Sarsaparilla.

AT NO SEASON OF THE YEAR

is a person's system so open to the assaults of disease as in the Spring and Fall seasons. Every person undergoes certain changes with the season, and when Spring succeeds the Winter, the body is encumbered with a load of impurities, which will generate disease unless speedily removed. The blood moves sluggishly along, being black and thick, with humours and decayed matter, the stomach is gorged with bile, while costiveness on the one hand, and great looseness on the other, prevail, and the body is ready to sink under disease. To meet this condition of things, resort must be had to medicine that will

PURIFY THE BLOOD.

and, at the same time, impart energy, vigour, and new life to the whole physical machinery.

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Half Pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s.; Small Quarts, 4s. 6d.; Quarts, 7s. 6d.; Mammoth, 11s.

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WHITE'S MOC-MAIN PATENT

LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st, Facility of application; 2nd, Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd, It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th, It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation, and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending.—Church and State Gazette.

Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—William Ferguson, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College, Surgeon to King's College Hospital, &c.; C. G. Guthrie, Esq., Surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; W. Bowman, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College Hospital; T. Callaway, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; W. Coulson, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the Magdalen Hospital; T. Blizard Curling, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital; W. J. Fisher, Esq., Surgeon-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Police Force; Aston Key, Esq., Surgeon to Prince Albert; Robert Liston, Esq., F.R.S.; James Luke, Esq., Surgeon to the London Truss Society; Erasmus Wilson, Esq., F.R.S.; and many others.

A Descriptive Circular may be had by post, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) can be forwarded by post, on sending the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, to the Manufacturer.

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Price of a Single Truss, 16s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d. Postage, 1s.

Price of a Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 8d. Postage, 1s. 6d.

Post-office Orders to be made payable to John White, Post-office, Piccadilly.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEECAPS, &c.

The material of which these are made is recommended by the Faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support in all cases of WEAKNESS and swelling of the LEGS, VARICOSE VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price from 7s. 6d. to 16s. each. Postage 6d.

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Which combine the excellences of both Instruments. The two can be used in combination by the same Performer, or each Instrument is perfect in itself. Price from Forty to One Hundred and Twenty Guineas.

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